38 PSS students earn distinctions as AP scholars. PAGE 2
Prison visit turns to drug bust. PAGE 4

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Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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Global tech outage impacts CNMI

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
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REPORTER

The recent worldwide tech outage caused by a faulty Microsoft Windows system update has impacted the CNMI in more ways than one as it has affected flights, hotels, and possibly even utility payments.

See GLOBAL on Page 4

INDOPACOM COMMANDER VISITS CNMI

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

This past Saturday, Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, left, and Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang, right, received a visit from Admiral Samuel Paparo, center, who was recently appointed as commander of the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command (USINDOPACOM) in May 2024. The commander's visit included a meeting with the governor and lieutenant governor where discussions to reaffirm regional commitments and advance collaboration and cooperation took place. Palacios and Apatang also led the admiral and his team on a brief tour around Saipan. They were joined by Admiral Brent DeVore, commander of Joint Region Marianas; Admiral Gregory Huffman, commander of Joint Task Force Micronesia; and other military leaders. The visit from Paparo, whose appointment to his new post was confirmed by the U.S. Senate earlier this year, comes after other high-level visits to the CNMI by U.S. Department of Defense leaders and heads of other federal agencies. According to the Department of Defense website, the USINDOPACOM area of responsibility encompasses about half the earth's surface, stretching from the waters off the west coast of the U.S. to the western border of India, and from Antarctica to the North Pole. Approximately 375,000 U.S. military and civilian personnel are assigned to the USINDOPACOM area of responsibility.

IN RETURN TO SAIPAN
Macapagal-Arroyo comes full circle

MARK RABAGO

Former Philippine president Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo addresses the over 200 attendees of a luncheon held in her honor last Friday at the Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan.

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
EDITOR

Back in the islands after nearly 30 years, former Philippine president Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo admitted that her second go-around to the CNMI became sort of a full-circle moment for her when she addressed over 200 attendees of a luncheon held in her honor last Friday at the Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan.

Macapagal-Arroyo, who was on Saipan as honorary chairwomen of the Tuloy

See CIRCLE on Page 4

Torres lawyers: Attorney cannot both advise and prosecute client

By CHRYSTAL MARINO
chrystal_marino@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

Torres

In the light of the recent court ruling to disqualify the Office of the Attorney General and prosecuting attorney James Kingman from Ralph DLG Torres' misconduct in office and other cases, the former governor's defense team said judge pro tem Arthur Barcinas' decision was based on precedence.

In a statement last Friday, the defense team stated that the court was right

See TORRES on Page 4

ESPECIALLY AFTER CURFEW HOURS
RB urges community to enforce supervision of minors

By RACQUEL H. FLOYD
raxfloyd@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Camacho

The Saipan Mayor's Office urges parents and guardians in the community to strictly enforce supervision of minor children, particularly after curfew hours based on the memo released last July 19.

Saipan Mayor Ramon B. "RB"

See MINORS on Page 4

INSIDE

LOCAL

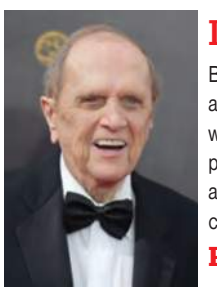
The Department of the Interior's Assistant Secretary for Insular and International Affairs Carmen G. Cantor announced $232,732,731 to the Trust Fund for the People of the Federated States of Micronesia.

PAGE 9

BUSINESS

A faulty software update caused technological havoc worldwide on Friday, grounding flights, knocking down some financial companies and news outlets, and disrupting hospitals, small businesses and government offices.

PAGE 10



LIFE & STYLE

Bob Newhart, the deadpan accountant-turned-comedian who became one of the most popular TV stars of his time after striking gold with a classic comedy album, has died at 94.

PAGE 11

SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

Local

38 PSS students earn distinctions as AP scholars

The CNMI Public School System recognizes 38 outstanding students who have showcased exceptional college-level proficiency by excelling in multiple Advanced Placement exams.

The CNMI public high schools offer a diverse range of both in-person and online AP courses, affording students a remarkable opportunity to immerse themselves in collegiate-level coursework. AP courses empower students to take on academic challenges and are designed to equip them with skills and knowledge to excel in higher education. Many colleges and universities in the United States and around the world offer credit or advanced placement to students who score well on AP exams. The College Board recognizes several levels of achievement based on student performance on AP exams and courses.

The AP Scholar with Distinction is granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams. The following students garnered the AP Scholar with Distinction Award: Joseph Victor B. Jimenez (MHS), Hannah Lim (MHS), Koey Pan (MHS), Jayden J. Shin (MHS), and Gwanpil Son (MHS).

The AP Scholar with Honor recognition is granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams. The following students garnered the AP Scholar with Honor Award: Jedric Aniciete (MHS), David Z. Cai (MHS), Si Jin Cheng (MHS), Mathea D. Deocares (MHS), Cindy T. Ma (MHS), Eunice Molina (MHS), Ye Z. Sablan (SSHS), Raja L. Sevugan (MHS), and Tian Si Xu (MHS).

The AP Scholar award is granted to students who receive scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams. The following students garnered the AP Scholar Award: Justin Afable (SSHS), Alicia L. Barcinas (MHS), Alexis P. Cabrera (MHS), Sharon V. Calamaan (MHS), Devin M. Camacho (SSHS), Jaimer Shawne S. Casama (MHS), Aleeza J. Castro (SSHS), YuLing Chai (SSHS), Yu Xin Chen (MHS), Jhaylin J. Cruz (MHS), Danielle C. Formalejo (SSHS), Breseis Ann T. Guiab (MHS), Zhalick L. Hane (MHS), Tao Jin (SSHS), Sara E. Keaton (MHS), JIng Lin (SSHS), Sunny Y. Ma (MHS), Juruel Neilan P. Magtalas (MHS), Aiyana R. Manglona (MHS), Christopher N. Mauricio (SSHS), IG Kamiya Nicole N. Obnimaga (MHS), Bradley Zaike F. Ordona (MHS), Bomee Park (MHS), Kaitlyn S. Punzalan (MHS), Gabriel Angelo P. Retardo (MHS), Eden Marie P. Rodriguez (MHS), Yejin Son (MHS), Shamira Sulyman (SSHS), Julia L. Taitano (MHS), Pony K. Tang (MHS), Simon D. Tang (SSHS), Jenny Zhang (MHS), and Kelly Zheng (MHS).

The AP International Diploma is awarded to students who display exceptional achievement across a variety of disciplines. The following students garnered the AP International Diploma: Koey Pan (MHS) and Jayden J. Shin (MHS).

The AP Capstone Diploma is awarded to students who score a 3 or higher on the AP Seminar and AP Research exams and obtain a score of 3 or higher on four other AP exams. The following students garnered the AP Capstone Diploma: Danielle C. Formalejo (SSHS) and Ye Z. Sablan (SSHS).

The AP Seminar and Research Certificate is awarded to students who score a 3 or higher on the AP Seminar and AP Research exams. The following students garnered the AP Seminar and Research Certificate: Justin Afable (SSHS), Aleeza J. Castro (SSHS), Tao Jin (SSHS), Christopher N. Mauricio (SSHS), and Simon D. Tang (SSHS).

Last May, 361 CNMI PSS Advanced Placement students combined to take a total 561 AP exams across various subject areas: Biology, Calculus, Chinese Language and Culture, Computer Science, English Language & Composition, English Literature & Composition, Human Geography, Japanese Language and Culture, Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Physics, Pre-Calculus, Psychology, Research, Seminar, Statistics, U.S. Government & Politics, and World History.

The CNMI Public School System congratulates these students on their exceptional achievements and wishes continued success to those who have graduated from high school. PSS looks forward to continued academic celebrations for students who are currently taking AP courses this upcoming school year. ***(PR)***

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: DPW24-ITB No.: 42400115

SUBMISSION DATE: August 08, 2024 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"Rehabilitation of the Nursery Facility at Division of Agriculture, Kagman."

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, LOCATED ON SECOND FLOOR, OLEAI JOETEN COMMERCIAL CENTER, SAN JOSE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

The project package will be available on or after **July 08, 2024** at Technical Services Divi-sion, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars ($100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of pay-ment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **July 23, 2024, 9:00 a.m., ChST** at the **DLNR, Division of Agriculture Kagman Office, Saipan.** The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **4:30 p.m. local time on July 30, 2024** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division,** 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ANTHONY A. CAMACHO
Acting Secretary, DPW

/S/ BRIEN SERS NICHOLAS JR.
Acting Director, Division of Procurement Services

/S/ SYLVAN O. IGISOMAR
Secretary of DLNR

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

DFEMS lifts open burning suspension

The Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services has lifted its suspension of its open burning notice and the Division of Fire Prevention and Arson Investigation will now again reinstate the issuance of burning permits.

In April of 2024, DFEMS informed the general public that the National Weather Services reported that drought conditions in the Marianas have intensified to D-3 conditions (extreme drought) for all islands in the CNMI, necessitating the suspension of burning permits until further notice.

For more information about the lifting of the open burning suspension, don't hesitate to get in touch with the DFEMS-DFPAI office at (670) 664-9178 or email at dfpai@dfem-scnmi.com. **(PR)**

CUC's electric pre-pay system temporarily down

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. last Friday informed the general public that its electric pre-pay system was currently offline due to technical difficulties that the provider is experiencing.

CUC appreciates the community's patience as its electric meter software provider works hard to restore Pay-Go services.

For more information, contact Customer Service at (670) 664-4282, visit their website, and visit their Facebook page for the latest updates. ***(PR)***

MLSC closed July 22-26

The Marianas Office of Micronesian Legal Services Corp. will be closed from Monday, July 22, 2024, through Friday, July 26, 2024, for staff development. MLSC will not be available for any services during this time. MLSC will resume regular business hours on Monday, July 29, 2024. MLSC apologizes for the inconvenience. ***(PR)***

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Touchdown with American Tailgate Street Market

Mari Bar is excited to announce the American Tailgate Street Market on Thursday, July 25, 2024. Join Mari Bar at Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan for an evening of great American food, special refreshing drinks, and live music from 5pm to 9:30pm.

This special event comes with American food classics with a twist of the Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan flavors like its $12 chili dog that comes with beef chili, cheese, jalapenos, and onions; and $12 pull pork burgers with onions, pickles, BBQ sauce, and slaw cabbage. Mari Bar also will have special side options—the $6 Cajun potato wedges with sweet chili aioli dip and the $6 onion rings with jalapeno ranch dipping sauce.

This American tailgate-inspired event comes with special drink choices:

- Bucket of 5 Beers — $25 (Budlight, Kona Big Wave, Budweiser, Michelob Ultra)
- Pitchers of Draft Beer — $20
- Special Cocktails — $12
- Firecracker Cocktail
- 4th of July Flashback

The live band performance starts at 6pm.

"So come and enjoy an American tailgate experience at the Mari Bar located in Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan. Bringing you the American tailgate you wish you had,

See MARKET on Page 4

CROWNE PLAZA

Mari Bar is excited to announce the American Tailgate Street Market on Thursday, July 25, 2024.

Chamber hosts 'Equal Employment Opportunities' in Q3 professional dev't training

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce is thrilled to announce its 3rd Quarter Professional Development Training, focused on "Equal Employment Opportunities." Save the date for this training session on Tuesday, July 23, 2024 running from 9am to 12pm at the Marianas Business Plaza, 6th Floor, Suite 604.

Facilitated by Jim Arenovski from Island Training Solutions, this training is designed to promote awareness. The comprehensive agenda covers key aspects such as:

- The focus of this professional development training revolves around fostering a workplace culture of civility and equity.
- Participants will explore the profound impact of past experiences on current beliefs and actions, recognizing and addressing both conscious and unconscious biases, and identifying and mitigating blind spots and stereotypes.
- They will also learn the art of effective management, including strategies for preventing incivility, promoting ethical behavior, and ensuring compliance with equal employment opportunity regulations, such as Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1967.
- The training emphasizes a no-tolerance policy to create a workplace where discrimination and harassment are not tolerated, reinforcing the idea that organizations teach what they allow.

The Chamber's 3rd Quarter Professional Development Training aims to enhance individuals' understanding of civility and equity in a workplace. Participants will engage in sessions aimed at understanding how past experiences shape current beliefs and behaviors, while also addressing both conscious and unconscious biases.

For more information or to secure your seat, reach out to the Saipan Chamber of Commerce at (670) 234-7150 or email contactus@saipanchamber.org. Register now to reserve your spot! ***(PR)***

NMC adopts AI policy to enhance learning and innovation

During its recent regular board meeting on June 27, 2024, the Northern Marianas College Board of Regents adopted a new Artificial Intelligence policy aimed to enhance the educational experience for students, faculty, and staff.

Developed through extensive research and collaboration across college stakeholders, the new policy is the first of its kind in the CNMI and underscores NMC's commitment to leveraging new technology to enhance learning, foster innovation in research and problem-solving, and prepare its students for the evolving job market.

"Harnessing the power of artificial intelligence is not just about staying current with technological advancements; it's about redefining the future of education, especially for us here in the CNMI," said NMC board chair Charles V. Cepeda. This policy represents the college's unwavering commitment to providing our students with the tools and opportunities they need to excel in an increasingly digital world, while equipping our faculty and staff to be more productive and efficient with their work."

Key highlights of the NMC AI policy:

1. Enhanced Learning Experiences: The AI policy allows for the integration of advanced AI tools and platforms into NMC course curriculum, enabling personalized learning experiences that cater to individual student needs and learning styles. This initiative aims to improve student engagement, retention, and success.

2. Ethical AI Use: NMC will enforce the safe and ethical use of AI technologies, creating guidelines for faculty and students to ensure

See NMC on Page 4

ARMATECH

Parking Management System Installer

Tel: (670) 234-8895 | Email: armatech.saipan@gmail.com
Mobile: (670) 287-5525 / (670) 783-8895

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Available for Public Review & Comment
PY2024 Annual Action Plan
July 8, 2024

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) announces the availability for public review and comment, the Program Year 2024 Annual Action Plan (AAP).

The AAP is mandated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Office of Community Planning and Development, for the use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds received by NMHC. NMHC is the Grantee of these HUD funds. NMHC administers CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs on behalf of the CNMI.

The PY2024 AAP identifies NMHC's proposed use of HUD PY2024 CDBG, HOME, HTF and ESG funds totaling $1,493,326.89. A detailed list of the proposed projects and activities are shown below.

Community Development Block Grant		Project Sponsor	Project Type	Amount
1	CNMI Community Health Education and	Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation	Public Facility	$ 784,100
2	Planning and Administrative Costs	Northern Marianas Housing Corporation	Planning and Administrative Costs	$196,025.00
	Total			$980,125.00
Emergency Solutions Grant		Project Sponsor	Project Type	Amount
3	Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing Assistance/ Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services	Homeless Prevention/ NMHC	Rapid Rehousing	$ 68,119.25
4	ESG Administrative Cost	NMHC	Program Administration	$ 6,090.75
5	Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)	NMHC	HMIS	$ 7,000.00
	Total			$ 81,210.00
HOME Investment Partnership Grant		Project Sponsor	Project Type	Amount
6	HOME Rehabilitation/ Homebuyer New Construction Program	NMHC	Affordable Housing	$ 339,564.55
7	HOME Administration	NMHC	Program Administration	$ 68,158.45
	Total			$407,723.00
Housing Trust Fund		Project Sponsor	Project Type	Amount
8	Acquisition and Rehabilitation of Housing	Konstruct Corp.	Affordable Housing	$ 24,268.89
				$ 24,268.89

The AAP will be available electronically on NMHC's website at www.nmhcgov.net. If you would like to obtain a copy or require additional information, please contact Zenie P. Mafnas, Deputy Corporate Director at 234-6866 or by email at deputydirector@nmhcgov.net.

NMHC is inviting the public to comment on the proposed AAP. Public Hearings will be held on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. See detail below: Tuesday, July 23, 2024 at 5:00 pm at the NMHC Main Office Conference Room, Garapan; Wednesday, July 24, 2024, 5:00 p.m. at the Tinian Field Office, San Jose Tinian; and on Thursday, July 25, 2024, 5:00 p.m. at the Rota Field Office, Sinapalo III, Rota.

Any person(s), agency, or organization wishing to comment on the AAP are encouraged to do so by submitting written comments to the NMHC main office at Garapan, Saipan, and/or to the Rota and Tinian Field Offices, no later than 4:30 pm Friday, August 8, 2024. Written comments may also be submitted via facsimile at (670)234-9021 or by submitting via email to deputydirector@nmhcgov.net. Comments must be received no later than 4:30 pm Friday, August 8, 2024. Should you require special accommodations, please contact Ms. Mafnas, at the NMHC main office, at 670-234-6866.

Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director
This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD CPD funds

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp Website: http://www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)
NMHC IFB 2024-011

(This ad is paid by NMHC by HUD funds)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: August 29, 2024, 2:00 p.m..

PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM (PSS) MARIANAS HIGH SCHOOL (MHS) REHABILITATION PROJECT

Project Package will be available on July 15, 2024, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of One-Hundred Dollars ($100.00) is required for each set of the project package. Payment must be made payable to NMHC and receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the project package at the reception counter.

Brief description of the project package is available on the NMHC Website at www.nmhcgov.net or the CDBG-DR Website at www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com "Procurement Tab".

The provisions on the NMHC Procurement regulations, NMIAC 100-60-725 AND 100-60-730 Prohibiting Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent Fees shall apply.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the NMHC Central Office Conference located in Garapan, Saipan on **July 26, 2024, 10:00 a.m.** In addition, a Mandatory site Visit/Inspection of the project site will be conducted immediately after the Pre-Bid Conference. Failure to attend both the Mandatory Pre-bid conference and the Mandatory site Visit/Inspection will be considered a non-responsive bidder.

For more information, contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager, at (670) 234-9447 or via email at officemanager@nmhcgov.net during business hours, 7:30am – 4:30pm Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

/s/ MERCED "MARCIE" M. TOMOKANE
Chairwoman
NMHC Board of Directors

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp Website: http://www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)
NMHC IFB 2024-012

(This ad is paid by NMHC by HUD funds)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: August 29, 2024, 10:00 a.m.

PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM (PSS) WILLIAM S. REYES (WSR) ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REHABILITATION PROJECT

Project Package will be available on July 15, 2024, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of One-Hundred Dollars ($100.00) is required for each set of the project package. Payment must be made payable to NMHC and receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the project package at the reception counter.

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/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

/s/ MERCED "MARCIE" M. TOMOKANE
Chairwoman
NMHC Board of Directors

Prison visit turns to drug bust

By CHRYSTAL MARINO
chrystal_marino@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

The Superior Court imposed a $50,000 bail on a woman who was busted last Wednesday with over $1,000 worth of illegal drugs while she was about to enter the Department of Corrections.

After her bail hearing last Friday at the Superior Court in Susupe, Ilayza Sanchez Matagolai, 37, is facing charges of illegal possession of a controlled substance, trafficking, and promoting major/minor prison contraband.

Matagolai appeared in Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho's courtroom last Friday in the custody of the Department of Corrections.

Matagolai's preliminary hearing date was set for July 26, 2024 at 2:30pm, and an arraignment for Aug. 5, 2024 at 9am. She will be facing prosecution by Chef Prosecutor Chester Hinds on behalf of the CNMI, and she will be represented by Chief Public Defender Douglas Hartig. After the hearing Matagolai was returned to the custody of DOC.

According to court documents, on Wednesday July 17, 2024 at 1:54pm the Department of Public Safety dispatched police officers to DOC after two black Ziploc baggies containing crystal-like substance was found on a female later identified as Matagolai who was entering DOC for the visitation of inmate Frank Pangelinan.

The police officers who arrived at DOC were informed that Matagolai was searched by female Corrections officers prior to her entering the visitation area. There the officers found in the seam of Matagolai's pants a piece of envelope with two black Ziploc baggies containing a crystal-like substance. Drug Enforcement Task Force officers arrived at DOC and at 2:38pm tested the substance with a narcotics identification kit. The results were presumptive positive for methamphetamine.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

MINORS

From page 1

Camacho said recent observations revealed an alarming number of minors roaming the community well past curfew, posing risks to the safety and well-being of the community according to.

The mayor emphasized the importance of adhering to Public Law 15-29, which establishes curfew hours for minors to provide stricter penalties for those who do not comply with the curfew law, and for other purposes.

Under Public Law 15-29, any person not covered by subsections (b) and (c) of this section who violates the terms of this chapter may be imprisoned for a period not exceeding 30 days, and up to 250 hours of community service. Additionally, any parent, guardian, or other adult person having the lawful custody, permanent or temporary, of any minor who suffers, permits, or lets, either willfully or negligently, such minor to violate the provisions of this chapter shall be fined not more than $750.

Minors below 16 years old have a curfew of 9pm to 5am, while 16 years old and older will have 10pm to 5am.

Camacho said "We all have a role to play in keeping our community safe. By enforcing curfew laws and supervising our children, we can prevent them from falling into harmful activities and protect them from potential dangers. I urged the public that if you see something, say something."

The mayor reassures the public that local law enforcement will be stepping up efforts to monitor curfew violations and take appropriate actions to ensure compliance. "The community's cooperation is essential in creating a safe environment for everyone."

Camacho highlighted several concerns associated with minors being out past curfew, including the temptation to engage in harmful activities such as drug and alcohol use, vandalism, and other criminal behavior. Furthermore, unsupervised minors are at increased risk of being harmed by others.

In addition, the mayor would like parents or guardians to be vigilant in knowing the whereabouts of their children, especially after curfew. Parents should educate and communicate with their children about the importance of the curfew laws and the risks associated with being out late. Camacho also encourages community members to report any sightings of minors violating curfew to local authorities to ensure their safety.

TORRES

From page 1

when it ruled the OAG be recused from prosecuting Torres due to conflict of interest.

"The law is clear that an attorney cannot both advise a client and thereafter prosecute him. This decision aligns with the court's duty to ensure fair and impartial legal proceedings, adhering to established legal standards and precedents."

Torres' lawyers likened Barcinas' order to the decisions made during the prosecutions of former governor Benigno R. Fitial and former attorney general Edward Buckingham.

"The court's ruling is consistent with past precedence, including the prosecutions of former governor Fitial and former AG Buckingham. In those cases, the OAG recused itself or agreed to withdraw due to conflicts of interest. These decisions have all recognized the harmful and unjust effect of allowing the OAG to prosecute its own client, the CNMI governor, and has emphasized the importance of maintaining a system of checks and balances as mandated by the Commonwealth constitution."

They continued "By recusing the OAG, the court has upheld the principles underlying these past prosecutions of high-level government officials, ensuring that the prosecution of former governor Torres proceeds fairly and lawfully. The decision does not dismiss Criminal Case No. 22-0050 or any of the charges against former governor Torres. Instead, it guarantees that the trial will be conducted fairly and lawfully, fulfilling the Judiciary's responsibility to decide matters based solely on the law."

The defense stated that the decision reflects the court "applying the guiding and binding legal principles to the facts as opposed to making a decision based on politics, which unfortunately some believe is the Judiciary's role."

With the OAG and Kingman disqualified, Barcinas declined to appoint a special prosecutor, citing concerns over potential influences and deferring the responsibility to the Executive Branch.

Barcinas has scheduled a hearing for Oct. 14 at 10am via Zoom. Until a new prosecutor is appointed, all other issues in the matter will be held in abeyance.

CIRCLE

From page 1

Foundation whose football team was holding a training camp on the island ***(see related story on Page 20)***, said her first time to visit the CNMI was in 1997 under less auspicious circumstances following a series of articles on the *Washington Post* that alleged labor abuses committed against Filipino workers in the CNMI.

"I was a first-term senator in 1994 and in late 1994 there was a series of very bad articles about Saipan that appeared in the newspapers in Washington, especially the *Washington Post*. The stories written about Saipan were not written in the Philippines. The stories were [written] in Washington and now Jerry gave a good explanation of why the stories might have been in Washington and why it was so explosive," she said.

The Jerry that Macapagal-Arroyo alluded to is Tan Holdings president and CEO Jerry Tan.

She went on to explain that 30 years ago, it was the height of the garment in industry on Saipan and because the Northern Mariana is a commonwealth of the United States, goods from the CNMI entered the United States without quota.

"The mainland garment manufacturers were being threatened by the Northern Mariana manufacturers. So, it was convenient for them to highlight or exaggerate any little incident here on Saipan, but not to talk about it on Saipan or even in the Philippines, but rather there in Washington, D.C. to influence the lawmakers to do something to make the garment industry here weaker and therefore make the garment industry in the mainland stronger. And so, they found the opportunity to do some of these articles."

Some of the articles, Macapagal-Arroyo said, were damning to the CNMI especially with headlines like "Filipinos report rape, lockout."

The immediate result of these articles was then-governor Froilan C. Tenorio became so incensed of the negative publicity that in a burst of anger threatened to ban Filipino workers from coming to Saipan.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

GLOBAL

From page 1

Over the weekend, the world experienced a global technology outage when CrowdStrike, a cybersecurity firm that provides software to scores of companies worldwide, deployed a faulty update to computers running Microsoft Windows, according to the Associated Press.

Unfortunately, the CNMI was not spared as the Commonwealth Ports Authority, Customs and Border Protection, airlines such as Jeju Air and United Airlines, local hotels, and even the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. were directly impacted by the outage.

In a quick phone interview with CPA executive director Leo Tudela, he shared that following the tech outage last Friday, flights to Saipan were delayed by five hours.

Specifically, Tudela shared that Jeju, which flight was supposed to arrive on Saipan at around 3am last Friday morning, arrived at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport at around 7pm.

Meanwhile, Tudela shared that United, which flight was supposed to arrive at around 9am on Friday, arrived at around 3am on Saturday.

Tudela, who was at the airport on Saturday, shared that aside from delayed flights to Saipan, check-in counters at the Saipan International Airport were also affected by the tech outage stating many things had to be done manually when checking in passengers.

In addition, Tudela noted that a number of Customs and Border Protection personnel were present at the Saipan International Airport to screen travelers who arrived on Saipan as CBP's system was also impacted by the tech outage.

"They had to screen passengers manually so it took a while to screen passengers," he shared.

CPA vice chair Antonio Cabrera shared that the delays could have been a direct result of CBP's new paperless system.

"I believe Jeju had some delays due to the IT outage specially with the Customs' paperless system that was just recently implemented here. Before entering the CNMI from anywhere outside of the CNMI, you must fill out a CNMI Custom form via internet. Paper forms are no longer being used," he shared.

In a statement from CPA chair Joe Ayuyu, getting the Airport's system back up and running took a few days.

Hotels

Meanwhile, according to the Hotel Association of the NMI, local hotels were also affected by the worldwide tech outage.

"Apparently, some of our members experienced problems due to [the] global Microsoft outage, including computer issues and credit card merchant outages. There were also a couple of international passenger flights from Korea that arrived a few hours late due to the system [being] down. They had to have their passenger checked manually prior to boarding," said HANMI chair Dennis Seo.

Seo shared that most hotels have Crisis Management or Emergency Manuals in place for possible computer system disruptions like last weekend's global Microsoft outage or even power outages.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

NMC

From page 3

transparency, fairness, and accountability of AI processes within coursework. The College will continuously monitor and evaluate AI implementations to uphold these standards through procedures.

3. Research and Innovation: The AI policy encourages interdisciplinary research and collaboration within current initiatives and future projects.

4. Workforce Development: The AI policy will empower NMC to provide training and support not just for its faculty and staff, but also for the greater CNMI community to promote digital literacy and inclusivity within the evolving workforce.

"We are excited to introduce this new AI policy, which represents a significant step forward in our mission to cultivate stewardship through scholarship," said NMC president Dr. Galvin Deleon Guerrero. "By not shying away from AI, we are boldly integrating it into our educational framework and our administrative processes, enhancing our productivity, promoting ethical practices and responsibility, and engaging our community, so that NMC can continue serving as the beacon of hope for the CNMI during this critical time." ***(PR)***

MARKET

From page 3

with delicious food, cold drinks, and great music. We look forward to seeing you there!" said Mari Bar in a statement.

Follow Mari Bar for the latest updates on its social media accounts @crowneplazaresortsaipan and @theterraceclubsaipan.

Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan is a 422-room hotel located in Garapan. Guests will be greeted by the resort's lush tropical gardens and panoramic view of Micro Beach, with Crowne Plaza's warm and friendly hospitality ensuring a seamless arrival. ***(PR)***

Commander, Task Force 75 holds change of command

SANTA RITA, Guam—Commander, Task Force (CTF) 75 held a change of command on Naval Base Guam on July 12.

Capt. Erich C. Frandrup relieved Capt. Shaun T. Lieb as the commodore of CTF 75-Navy Expeditionary Forces Command Pacific during a ceremony last Friday morning.

"This tour has been the absolute thrill of my career," said Lieb, thanking his team for their numerous contributions to the mission in the region. "The thank yous go up and down the chain of command. It would take another 24 years of naval service to thank everyone... I'm just one player in a much broader drama in terms of CTF 75 and what we do providing specialized naval capability...none of this would be possible were it not for each and every one of you."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Capt. Erich C. Frandrup relieved Capt. Shaun T. Lieb as the commodore of CTF 75-Navy Expeditionary Forces Command Pacific during a ceremony on Naval Base Guam last July 12.

Rear Adm. Bradley J. Andros, the commander of Naval Expeditionary Combat Command, presided over the ceremony. "I tell people I wouldn't be a flag officer if it wasn't for Shaun. I hand-selected him to come out here because he is the person in the EOD that I trust most, and I knew we needed to make an impact out here. You've knocked it out of the park," said Andros. He noted the significant advancements and opportunities made during Lieb's tenure, particularly the team's response to Typhoon Mawar in 2023, and advancements in the Philippines and Australia.

Lieb assumed command of CTF 75 in June 2022. He was awarded the Legion of Merit for his accomplishments during his tenure at CTF 75. Leib's next assignment will be at the National War College in Washington, D.C.

After delivering his final remarks as commodore of CTF 75, Lieb read his orders for the change in leadership of seven task groups with more than 1,300 personnel forward-postured throughout the Indo-Pacific region.

In his closing remarks, Lieb imparted some words of encouragement to his relief, Capt. Frandrup. "Erich, you are inheriting an exceptional team. You are going to one of the best jobs in the Navy."

Frandrup assumed command and made his first remarks as the new commodore, "I am humbled, truly humbled, to serve alongside you. I pledge to lead with integrity and humility. The work we do and the missions we complete are vast in nature, highly complex, and frankly, nobody else can do them. I am excited to join this team."

CTF 75 is a part of the U.S. 7th Fleet. The U.S. 7th Fleet conducts forward-deployed naval operations in support of U.S. national interests in the Indo-Asia-Pacific area of operations. As the U.S. Navy's largest numbered fleet, 7th Fleet interacts with 35 other maritime nations to build maritime partnerships that foster maritime security, promote stability and prevent conflict. ***(PR)***

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
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Tels: (670) 234-9447 / 234-6866 / 234-7670 • Fax: (670) 234-9021

PUBLIC NOTICE

JULY 22, 2024

This Notice is paid by NMHC with HUD funds.

COMBINED NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation
Saipan, MP 96950 Tel: (670) 234-9447/6866

This notice shall satisfy the above-cited two separate but related procedural notification requirements.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or after **August 07, 2024,** the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Honolulu Field Office, for the release of Community Project Funding Grant (CPF) pursuant to the authority of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117-103); and the Explanatory Statement of Division of that Act, which was printed in the House Section of the Congressional Record on March 09, 2022 (Explanatory Statement); and superseding provisions of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328).

Project/Activity Type	Purpose	Location	Total Project Cost
New Construction: Generator house and ongoing maintenance of a generator.	To provide ongoing services to victims of domestic violence and human trafficking during weather events and long-term power outages in Saipan.	**Recipient Location:** Dandan, Saipan **Original Location for the project:** Confidential	$50,000.00

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has determined that the above-listed projects will not significantly impact the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation Central Office in Garapan, Saipan. It may be examined or copied during regular work hours, Monday through Friday except CNMI or Austerity Holidays, from 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the projects may submit written comments to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, or direct delivery to the central office in Garapan, Saipan. All comments received by **August 07, 2024, 4:30 p.m.,** will be considered by the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands before authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Commenters should specify which part of this Notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands certifies to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD Honolulu Field Office that the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Governor Arnold I. Palacios consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process, and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office acceptance of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and related laws and authorities, and allows the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands to use Program Funds.

OBJECTION TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office will accept objections to its release of funds and the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands certification for a period of **fifteen days** following anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if it is on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands; (b) the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient has incurred cost not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of the release of funds by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures of 24 CFR Part 58 and shall be addressed to the **U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development, Honolulu Field Office, 1003 Bishop Street, Suite 2100, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813** and CPDHonolulu@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

/s/
Arnold I. Palacios
Governor, CNMI

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REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or after **August 07, 2024,** the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Honolulu Field Office, for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383), as amended, to undertake the following projects and purposes in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

Project/Activity Type	Purpose	Location	Total Project Cost
New Construction: Childcare Facility (Rota)	Construct a concrete Early Childhood Learning Facility to provide quality care services that will support the overall development of young children in Rota.	Lot No. 345 R 524, Sinapalo III, Rota	$450,000.00

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has determined that the above-listed projects will not significantly impact the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation Central Office in Garapan, Saipan. It may be examined or copied during regular work hours, Monday through Friday except CNMI or Austerity Holidays, from 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

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/s/
Arnold I. Palacios
Governor, CNMI

Opinion

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EDITORIAL

The Democrats should let delegates vote in person in Chicago

President Joe Biden has done little since his awful debate showing of June 27 to reassure his fellow Democrats, let alone the country, that he's fit to serve another four years in the toughest job on earth.

There have been a few stronger moments, most notably Biden's news conference following the NATO gathering in Washington that displayed his facility with geopolitics. But, on the whole, the Biden campaign's sporadic efforts to portray a vigorous candidate able to go toe-to-toe with an ascendant Donald Trump have been underwhelming, to say the least.

We're now three weeks after what history is likely to record as the most disastrous presidential debate performance in U.S. history (and, yes, we include Richard Nixon in 1960 in that assessment), and moderate Democratic lawmakers aren't any less panicked now than they were on that Black Friday for the party. There still is intraparty discussion, paused only for a few days following Saturday's shocking attempt on Trump's life, about replacing Biden at the top of the ticket.

So how do the Democratic National Committee and the Biden campaign respond? By planning to secure the faltering 81-year-old's nomination via a remote delegate vote weeks before Democrats gather in Chicago.

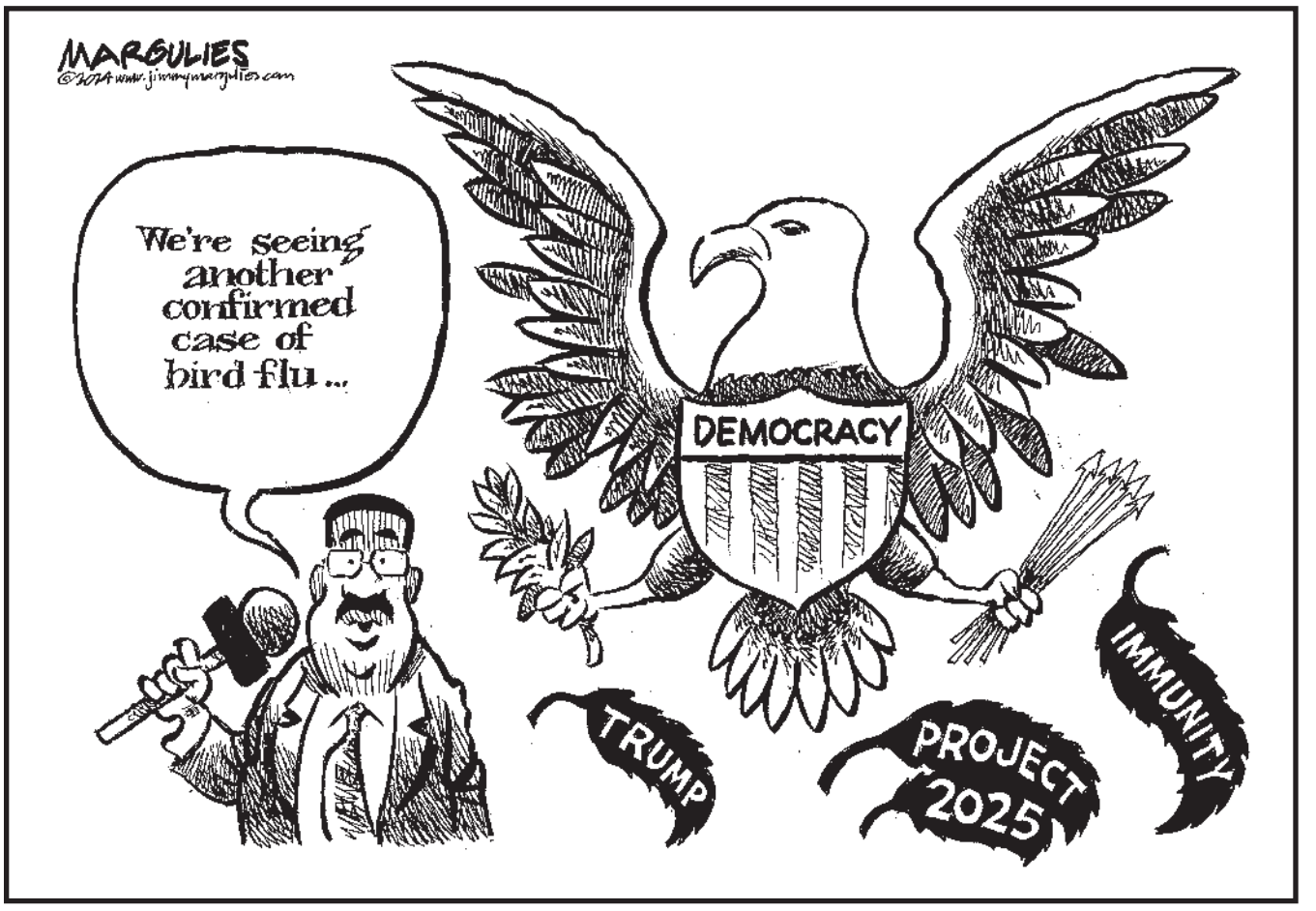
The original plan to do so was a response to a strange situation in Ohio (a state, by the way, that Biden is nearly sure to lose) in which Biden might have been kept off the ballot due to arcane timing issues. Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine and state lawmakers quickly passed a law to ensure Ohio voters could choose the Democratic nominee.

But Democratic Party Chairman Jaime Harrison intends to go through with the early delegate vote anyway, an obvious ploy to maintain better control, lock in Biden's nomination and force the naysayers to back off. (On Wednesday morning, in response to anger from moderate Dems still pushing Biden to step aside, the DNC announced it would delay the virtual vote by a few days.) The desperation is palpable. Team Biden keeps believing that if only fellow Democrats would fall in line behind the president, the election would become a referendum on Trump and his chaotic single term in office, as well as his encouragement of the appalling events of Jan. 6.

What the Biden campaign should realize by now is that their strategy won't work, at least not the way they envisioned. Biden is one of the most unpopular incumbents to seek reelection in decades, vying only with fellow Democrat Jimmy Carter for that distinction. Concerns that Biden is too old to continue as president predated the debate and now are solidified. More than three-quarters of Americans think he's too old for the job; well over half of Democrats believe that as well. This election is at least as much a referendum on Biden as it is on Trump.

Biden in a recent interview with BET News, when asked why he didn't stick to his original plan to serve only one term and allow the younger generation to run, said, "I didn't anticipate things getting so divided."

See DEMOCRATS on Page 7



JD Vance's Trumpism was there all along

By FRANK BARRY
Bloomberg Opinion

Frank Barry is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist and member of the editorial board covering national affairs. He is the author of the forthcoming book, "Back Roads and Better Angels: A Journey Into the Heart of American Democracy."

Former President Donald Trump's decision to select Ohio Senator J.D. Vance as his running mate reminds me of the Seinfeld episode in which Jerry falls hard for a woman and eventually realizes why: She's just like him.

Trump doesn't want another goody two-shoes like Mike Pence hanging around the Oval Office and telling him he can't, say, steal an election. He wants a mini-me, and Vance fits the bill perfectly. Well, almost perfectly.

Vance's evolution from calling Trump "cultural heroin" to becoming a Trump junkie has been much dissected. But an important aspect of how their bromance blossomed is being overlooked.

The most obvious explanation for Vance's about-face—sheer cravenness—is impossible to ignore. The only way for Vance to win the 2022 Ohio Senate primary was to go from decrying Trump to, as Trump put it when he endorsed him, "kissing my ass." Trump drives the GOP bus, and Vance knows that those who don't get on board get run over.

Vance denies this, of course. He lays out his own explanation for the change of heart in an interview with Ross Douthat of the *New York Times*, where he attributed his epiphany to the public reaction to his book, Hillbilly Elegy. After becoming a household name among people very much like himself—well-educated and well-to-do Trump opponents in both parties—he felt he was being used by them to assuage their concerns, rather than challenge their assumptions. And so he rebelled.

I don't doubt the sincerity of that rebellion. Conventional wisdom among elites can be suffocating. But there is something else at work, too.

When I was beginning to write a book about what holds America together, I went back to look at Hillbilly Elegy, which had disappointed me. Don't get me wrong: It's a worthwhile read. Partisanship shouldn't keep people from it. But the dog-eared pages and underlined passages in my copy reminded me what bothered me about it.

In short: Vance's mission was to explain "them" (hillbillies) to "us" (elites). Achieving that mission required supplying answers about how they are different from us. And so at various points, Vance positions aspects of the Appalachian mindset as unique when, in fact, they are quite common, if not universal.

He writes, for instance, that "the feeling that you have little control over your life and a willingness to blame everyone but yourself … is distinct from the larger economic landscape of modern America." Really? That feeling of powerlessness can be as present in urban neighborhoods as it is in rural areas.

Vance cites a social science paper suggesting "that hillbillies learn from an early age to deal with uncomfortable truths by avoiding them, or pretending better truths exist."

Yet that kind of avoiding and pretending is part of human nature and runs throughout American history. Ask Jews whose ancestors never talked about the Holocaust, or Black Americans who quietly suffered through Jim Crow and discrimination, or any other group that has faced pain and tragedy.

Vance cites the phrase "too big for your britches" to suggest that hillbillies who achieve success are uniquely subject to shaming about forgetting their roots. Yet city kids who escape poverty can hear similar taunting, and Black Americans have long heard a harsh version of it, having their success labeled "selling out."

There are other instances that fit the same pattern—seeing differences where commonalities exist, and trying to localize sentiments that are widespread. And so rather than challenging people's assumptions, as Vance hoped to do, his book played into them.

In trying to highlight divides that don't exist, or exaggerate their size, Vance was showing an early sign of his later turn to divisive rhetoric. Because it wasn't just Vance's view of Trump that changed. So did his tone.

When he decided to run for Senate, Vance morphed from a good-natured explainer to a scorched-earth warrior, trading persuasion for provocation, civility for bombast, and independent analysis for hyper-partisan trolling and finger-pointing.

If Trump wanted to run on unity after he was nearly assassinated, he might have picked a less polarizing figure, like Doug Burgum, Tim Scott, or Marco Rubio, or one of his Republican critics, like Nikki Haley. Instead, he wanted a mini-me.

"Now I know what I've been looking for all these years," Jerry says to Kramer in explaining his love for his new girlfriend. "Myself! I've been waiting for me to come along! And now I've swept myself off my feet!"

Jerry eventually tires of his mini-me, as he recognizes that self-love has its limits. It's hard to see that happening with Trump. Should he win, the selection of Vance—and his predilection for inflaming us versus them division—will be a preview of the government to come.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Federal debt: The ticking bomb in your wallet

If you don't think the interest on the federal debt is a problem, try this quick exercise. Grab your pay stub for June and see how much you paid in federal income tax, then realize that over 75% of that was effectively your contribution to interest on the debt last month. No roads, schools, military or hospitals—just interest. Houston, we have a problem.

For the first time ever, the government spent $140 billion in a single month to service its gargantuan debt of nearly $35 trillion. By the end of this fiscal year, the Treasury will spend almost $1.2 trillion in interest alone. And the problem is getting worse.

For June, not a single line item in the Treasury's monthly statement was larger than the $140 billion interest expense. It was larger than either the Social Security Administration ($129 billion), Department of Health and Human Services ($90 billion), Department of Education ($87 billion) or Department of Defense ($63 billion).

Interest is now equal to more than three-quarters of all personal income taxes, and over 30% of all taxes and duties received by the Treasury in June. Not only is the nation drowning in debt, but now the interest payments are an anchor around its neck.

Federal finance can seem a bit ephemeral, so let's put this in terms of family finances. Imagine a family has racked up more credit-card debt than it earns in an entire year. Those cards had low introductory interest rates, so even as their debt ballooned, the monthly interest payments seemed manageable. But then, rates rose—and so did the finance charges.

Because the family spends more than they earn each month (hence the massive credit card debt), any additional expenses only exacerbate their financial nightmare. Higher interest is just another expense that must be financed, which means their outstanding balances will now grow that much faster.

Of course, higher balances mean higher finance charges, and the debt doom loop has begun. The family has no way out other than severe spending cuts in their budget or an ignominious bankruptcy.

This is where our federal government is today. It has spent so much more than it has taken in that it has racked up a $35 trillion debt. It's not only many times larger than annual federal tax revenue, but over 20% larger than the nation's entire economy.

One key difference, however, between the family budget and the federal budget is counterfeiting. For the family, this isn't an option—unless they want to go to jail. For the federal government, creating money is the preferred way to conduct a backdoor default on its obligations.

Through the Federal Reserve, the government has been expanding the money supply and devaluing the dollar, including the nearly $35 trillion that make up the federal debt. This allows the government to repay that debt, and pay the interest, using depreciated currency.

By E.J. ANTONI
The Heritage Foundation

E.J. Antoni is a public finance economist and the Richard F. Aster fellow at the Heritage Foundation, and a senior fellow at Unleash Prosperity.

If you loaned the government $1 at the start of 2021 and got it back today, it'd only be worth about 80 cents. Even if you received 5% interest each year, you'd still be getting less back from the Treasury than you originally lent out.

This is why the stratospheric rise in the interest on the debt should concern everyone. Not only is it displacing funding for things like roads and the military, but it will also mean much more inflation unless we take a chainsaw to federal spending, à la Argentinian President Javier Milei.

That course correction had better come quick. The federal government is already running $2 trillion annual deficits, driving up interest on the debt exponentially. The time bomb of federal finance has already started ticking down.

Republicans have broken free of Barack Obama

Barack Obama looms large, but less.

Since 2009, we have been engaged in a cosmic battle over whether the 21st century will belong to Obama's multi-racial, tolerant America, or to the menacing anti-Obama reaction of Donald Trump, which seeks to stuff a half-century of civic, cultural and human rights advances back into a bottle and hurl it into oblivion.

The light is changing. At long last it's the Republicans who are emerging from Obama's shadow while Democrats struggle to find a path.

Both 2024 presidential candidates are byproducts of Obama's presidency. One was publicly humiliated by Obama at the 2011 White House Correspondents' Dinner. A famously raging narcissist, the victim of Obama's black-tie barbs, ever eager for revenge, found a movement of angry white men to empower him.

The other candidate, Obama's loyal lieutenant, is said to have felt slighted—a common vice presidential complaint—during his eight years working for the younger, more magnetic, man. The campaign, variously sotto voce or primal screamy, to push the current old and unvigorous president aside is hampered by that past. If Obama, at once the Democratic Party's most commanding and unifying figure, were to make such a plea to President Joe Biden, many fear it would only summon the older man's resentments and backfire.

Thanks, Obama?

American politics is in desperate straits, but there is still a certain flow to events, if not a precise logic. It's hard to believe that the Republican Party would have grown quite so vicious, quite so quickly, without the galvanizing presence of the Black president who inspired witch-doctor memes, racist email chains and the full-blown pathologies of millions of white Americans, including Obama's Republican successor in the White House, who channeled their racial anxieties into witless conspiracy tales of an alien among us.

That anti-Obama crusade, victorious in 2016, was racially and culturally homogenous but ideologically incoherent. Misogyny, racial hierarchy and anti-immigrant rage combined with Trump's uniquely sprawling corruption to define his presidency. But it lacked an organizing structure beyond cultural catharsis.

Things are different now. The movement around Trump has matured and streamlined. Trump is no longer surrounded by the ham-handed C-Team of Republican politics—apparatchiks and has-beens who couldn't land a job in a competent Republican administration. The aides who were horrified by his Jan. 6 attack on the republic have peeled away to cable television or obscurity. The aides who relished the attempted coup, and who want to see a more vigorous and sustained attack on American democracy and pluralism, are everywhere in ascendance. The distilled, concentrated remains of Trump's first term is hard stuff.

Project 2025, the authoritarian playbook compiled by the right-wing Heritage Foundation, is not the slapdash Trumpism of 2016, which mixed fakery, jingoism, racism and old-school Republican nostrums. There is more substance now beneath the Trumpist blather. Trump's selection of JD Vance as his vice presidential nominee confirms that the time for intra-party or national compromise is over. The MAGA gang knows what it wants—an authoritarian ethno-religious state under a tight, Trumpist fist—and it has every reason to believe it can be achieved with the help of a compliant judiciary. To co-opt the Somali pirate's line to Tom Hanks' anxious boat captain: White authoritarians are the pilot now.

Elon Musk is promising to spend more than $100 million to elect MAGA. Miriam Adelson has pledged tens of millions more. Other reactionary forces, inside and outside the democracy-averse bastions of the tech industry, will be coming forward to place what appears to be a winning bet.

By FRANCIS WILKINSON
Bloomberg Opinion

Francis Wilkinson is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering U.S, politics and policy. Previously, he was executive editor for the Week and a writer for Rolling Stone.

In effect, Republicans have moved beyond their fear of Obama. They're no longer reactive; they are on a forward, militant march. They feel confident turning not just on trans kids and feminists and immigrants who had once hoped to find safety and affirmation in Obama's America, but on universities and public school systems and entire cities. (The governor of California seems to understand what's coming. The governor of New York and mayor of its largest city not so much.)

Democrats are now the reactive party. While MAGA pursues a massive reengineering of American civic and political culture, Democratic policies appear largely beside the point. The GOP abolishment of abortion rights is properly understood as a prelude to the loss of other rights—including the right to feel like an equal citizen in a democratic republic. Democrats are no longer scrambling to save the Affordable Care Act or student loan forgiveness. The party is scrambling to salvage democracy itself. The fight will take all the party can summon. Obama, and much, much more.

DEMOCRATS

From page 6

It's true that division and partisanship remain alarmingly intense and that the country desperately needs a leader who can identify issues on which red and blue America can agree and then tackle them. The irony here, though, is that if there's one thing on which most Americans can agree, it's that Biden is too old to run for a second term. Poll after poll tells us so.

If Biden's intransigence were affecting only the Democratic Party, we'd be tempted to say the ensuing losses in November simply will be what the feckless party deserves. History is littered with tales featuring lack of courage and predictably bad outcomes.

But the nation has a stake, too, in a functional Democratic Party. Biden has demonstrated that he's incapable at this stage of his life to cogently argue the Democrats' positions on issues. Other than declaring Trump a menace to democracy—a tack that's become far harder to pursue zealously after last weekend—Biden struggles mightily to prosecute the case on abortion, immigration, taxation, the economy, climate change and a host of other vital concerns to the country. If he continues his campaign, who believes voters who haven't made up their minds will be given well-articulated Democratic positions on issues that matter most?

As a result of Biden's frailty and poor communication abilities, as well as the ongoing intraparty drama over whether he should continue, the Trump campaign spends nearly all its time and money playing offense, with little in the way of pushback from the other side. For example, does a 10% tariff on all foreign goods, as Trump has proposed, make economic sense? Economists overwhelmingly say no, but Trump's opponent has had little to say. If he did say anything about the issue, who other than the most partisan Democrats is confident the response would be forceful and intelligible?

Likewise, Trump and other Republicans have pledged to fire thousands of federal bureaucrats and replace them with loyalists. There's no shortage of "deep state" conspiracists who cheer those declarations, but where's the defense of the civil service from the presumptive nominee of the other party?

This page is on record that Biden should allow a younger Democrat to run in his place. Nothing we've seen in the past three weeks has changed our view.

At the very least, the DNC owes it to the doubters—an AP/NORC poll conducted from July 11 to 15 found that 65% of Democrats wanted Biden to throw in the towel, including 75% of those under the age of 45—to give Democrats until the convention to choose a nominee. Other than propping up a teetering candidate whose candidacy is unwanted by the majority of his own party, there's no excuse at this point not to allow delegates to vote in person in Chicago.

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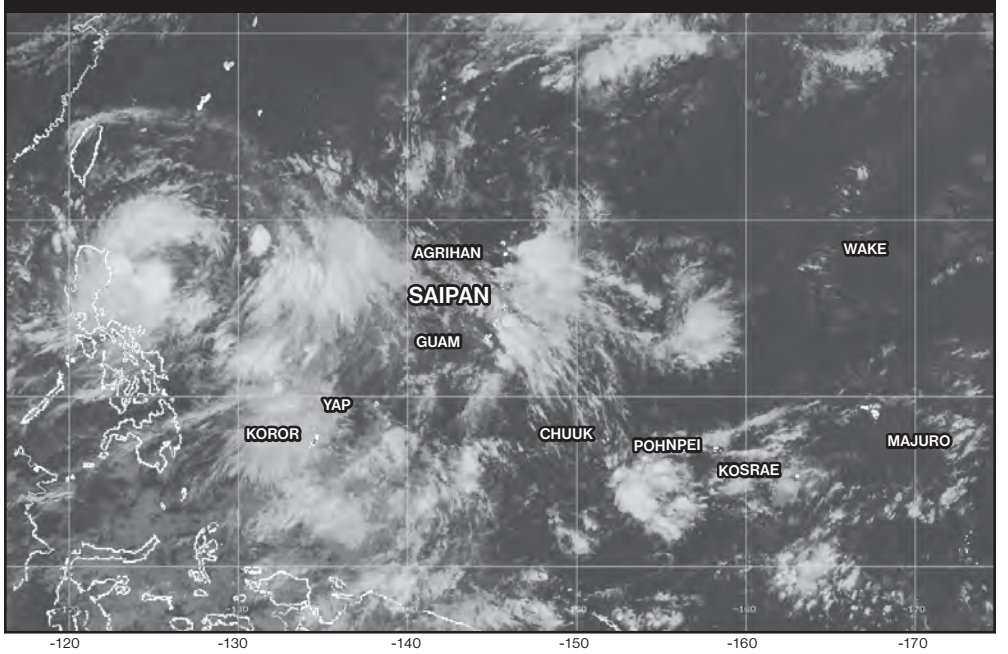
The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny.	A 30 percent chance of showers. Partly sunny.	Partly sunny.	A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy.	A chance of showers. Partly sunny.
87° 79°	87° 79°	87° 79°	87° 79°	85° 81°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 4:55 AM SUNDAY, JULY 21, 2024

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

The Special Weather Statement was updated for position of Invest 93W this morning, and Small Craft Advisory also updated. Satellite loops indicate clouds and showers should gradually increase today thru this evening. Previous forecast trends continue, so gusty winds to 30 knots and choppy seas are expected as Invest 93W crosses the Marianas waters.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: https://www.weather.gov/gum/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	87° / 79°
Palau	Partly Cloudy	85° / 76°
Yap	Cloudy	86° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	88° / 79°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	87° / 77°
Kosrae	Cloudy	87° / 77°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85° / 81°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Rain	59° / 48°
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	95° / 75°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	88° / 82°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	86° / 74°
London	Partly Cloudy	75° / 59°
Los Angeles	Sunny	88° / 70°
Manila	Thunderstorms	91° / 79°
Melbourne	Showers	54° / 45°
Miami	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°
New York	Mostly Sunny	84° / 72°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	88° / 75°
Paris	Mostly Sunny	88° / 64°
Busan	Mostly Cloudy	84° / 75°
Rome	Sunny	90° / 70°
Salem	Thunderstorms	88° / 73°
San Francisco	Windy	63° / 53°
Seoul	Thunderstorms	88° / 75°
Tokyo	Thunderstorms	91° / 75°
Washington, DC	Thunderstorms	91° / 74°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:56 AM	6:50 PM
Tuesday	5:57 AM	6:49 PM
Wednesday	5:57 AM	6:49 PM
Thursday	5:57 AM	6:49 PM
Friday	5:57 AM	6:49 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	6:23 AM	7:46 PM
Tuesday	-	7:27 AM	8:34 PM
Wednesday	-	8:27 AM	9:18 PM
Thursday	-	9:26 AM	9:59 PM
Friday	-	10:23 AM	10:40 PM

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
2:14 AM	Low Tide	1.51
7:00 AM	High Tide	2.16
2:32 PM	Low Tide	-0.35
9:42 PM	High Tide	2.12

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 1, 2024

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA076	9:50AM	10:35AM	Daily

SAIPAN- NARITA (NRT)

UA824	11:50AM	2:25PM	1, 3, 5

GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

PR 111	5:55AM	7:55AM	Daily
UA193	6:50PM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Palau
UA183	7:10PM	9:10PM	Daily

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

7C3403/2305	4:45AM	10:20PM	Daily
UA076/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam
UA076/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Guam, Palau

SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)

TW308	3:15AM	7:00AM	Daily
7C3403	4:45AM	8:35AM	Daily
7C3405	4:10PM	7:45PM	Daily
7C3471	5:50PM	9:30PM	Daily from July 17

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX77	4:05AM	7:00AM	1, 5

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	8:00AM	8:50AM	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

UA825	5:30PM	9:55PM	2, 4, 7

MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

UA184	10:25PM	4:20AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA192	10:25PM	6:15AM+1	2, 5 via Palau
PR110	10:30PM	4:25AM+1	Daily
UA184	11:50PM	5:45AM+1	2, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA192/174	10:25PM	8:50AM+1	2, 5 via Palau, Guam
UA184/174	10:25PM	8:50AM +1	1, 3, 4, 6,7 via Guam
7C2306/3406	11:10PM	3:10PM+1	Daily
UA184/174	11:50PM	8:50AM +1	2, 5 via Guam

INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3406	9:30AM	3:10PM	Daily
7C3472	11:05AM	4:40PM	Daily
TW307	8:30PM	2:15AM+1	Daily
7C3404	10:10PM	3:40AM+1	Daily

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

HX76	7:25PM	2:35AM+1	4, 7

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 2, 2024

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	SAIPAN	ROTA	08:30	09:00	Daily
1302	SAIPAN	ROTA	10:30	11:00	Daily
1303	SAIPAN	ROTA	15:30	16:00	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3101	ROTA	SAIPAN	9:30	10:00	Daily
3102	ROTA	SAIPAN	11:30	12:00	Saturday & Sunday
3103	ROTA	SAIPAN	13:30	14:00	Monday To Friday
3104	ROTA	SAIPAN	16:30	17:00	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	ROTA	GUAM	11:30	12:00	Monday To Friday

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
4301	GUAM	ROTA	12:30	13:00	Monday To Friday

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1201	SAIPAN	TINIAN	7:30	7:45	Daily
1202	SAIPAN	TINIAN	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	SAIPAN	TINIAN	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	SAIPAN	TINIAN	10:00	10:15	Daily
1206	SAIPAN	TINIAN	14:00	14:15	Daily
1207	SAIPAN	TINIAN	15:00	15:15	Daily
1208	SAIPAN	TINIAN	16:00	16:15	Daily
1209	SAIPAN	TINIAN	17:00	17:15	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
2101	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:00	8:15	Daily
2102	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	TINIAN	SAIPAN	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	TINIAN	SAIPAN	10:30	10:45	Daily
2106	TINIAN	SAIPAN	14:30	14:45	Daily
2107	TINIAN	SAIPAN	15:30	15:45	Daily
2108	TINIAN	SAIPAN	16:30	16:45	Daily
2109	TINIAN	SAIPAN	17:30	17:45	Daily

OIA announces $233M contribution to Compact Trust Fund for FSM

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Department of the Interior's Assistant Secretary for Insular and International Affairs Carmen G. Cantor announced $232,732,731 to the Trust Fund for the people of the Federated States of Micronesia, bringing the total United States contributions to the Trust Fund for fiscal year 2024 to $250 million.

The announcement was made during a visit with Federated States of Micronesia Ambassador Jackson Soram at the FSM Embassy in Washington. Cantor highlighted the Biden-Harris administrations implementation of provisions under Public Law 118-42, which enabled and provided funding for the recently negotiated agreement on amendments to the Compact of Free Association (Compact) signed between the United States and the FSM on May 23, 2023.

July 11, 2024
Date
PAY TO THE ORDER OF
The Government and People of the Federated States of Micronesia
$232,732,731
Two Hundred Thirty-Two Million, Seven Hundred Thirty-Two Thousand, Seven Hundred Thirty One
Dollars
For: FY24 Compact Trust Funds (total $250 million)
Carmen G. Cantor
Assistant Secretary - Insular and International Affairs
⑆ 00000000 ⑆ 00000000 0000

OIA

U.S. Department of the Interior-Insular and International Affairs assistant secretary Carmen G. Cantor holds the other end of a giant facsimile check of $232,732,731 to the Trust Fund for the people of the Federated States of Micronesia with FSM Ambassador Jackson Soram.

"Interior is honored to provide nearly $233 million in support of the Federated States of Micronesia as provided for under the newly amended Compact agreements," said Cantor. "This contribution significantly bolsters the Compact Trust Fund for the People of the FSM and represents the first installment of United States contributions to the Trust Fund that will total $500 million over a two-year period.

The Compact of Free Association Amendments Act was signed by President Biden on March 9. These funds will contribute to the economic advancement and long-term budgetary self-reliance of the FSM and will be used in accordance with the terms of the Trust Fund Agreement between the United States and the FSM.

Under Public Law 118-42, updates have also been made to the list of services that individuals from the Federated States of Micronesia and the two other freely associated states are eligible for while living in the United States. An initial list of program and policy updates from various agencies that reflect the amended Compact are available here and will be updated as needed.

Also called for under the Compact agreement is an annual meeting of the Joint Economic Management Committee (JEMCO) which reviews and approves annual budgets for Compact funds. The JEMCO, which is chaired by Assistant Secretary Cantor, is planning to meet later this year.

The Assistant Secretary for Insular and International Affairs and the Office of Insular Affairs carry out the Secretary of the Interior's responsibilities for the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Additionally, OIA administers and oversees federal assistance under the Compacts of Free Association to the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau. The OIA also administers a discretionary Technical Assistance Program for all the Insular Areas. Find information about OIA and its work on www.doi.gov/oia, Facebook, X, and YouTube. ***(PR)***

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net
Tels: (670) 234-9447 / 234-6866 / 234-7670 • Fax: (670) 234-9021

PUBLIC NOTICE

JULY 22, 2024

This Notice is paid by NMHC with HUD funds.

COMBINED NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation
Saipan, MP 96950 Tel: (670) 234-9447/6866

This notice shall satisfy the above-cited two separate but related procedural notification requirements.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or after **August 07, 2024,** the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Honolulu Field Office, for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383), as amended, to undertake the following projects and purposes in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

Project/Activity Type	Purpose	Location	Total Project Cost
New Construction: Community Pavilions Shelter (Rota)	Construct Community Pavilions to provide shelters and enhance Rota's municipal and community recreational activities and outdoor events.	Community and Economic Development Park Lot No. 347 R 35, Sinapalo III, Rota	$104,100.00

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has determined that the above-listed projects will not significantly impact the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, and may be examined or copied during regular work hours, Monday through Friday except CNMI or Austerity Holidays, from 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the projects may submit written comments to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, or direct delivery to the central office in Garapan, Saipan. All comments received by **August 07, 2024, 4:30 p.m.,** will be considered by the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Commenters should specify which part of this Notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands certifies to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD Honolulu Field Office that the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Governor Arnold I. Palacios consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process, and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office acceptance of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and related laws and authorities and allows the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands to use Program Funds.

OBJECTION TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office will accept objections to its release of funds and the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands certification for a period of **fifteen days** following anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if it is on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands; (b) the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient has incurred cost not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of the release of funds by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures of 24 CFR Part 58 and shall be addressed to the **U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development, Honolulu Field Office, 1003 Bishop Street, Suite 2100, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813** and CPDHonolulu@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

/s/
Arnold I. Palacios
Governor, CNMI

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Project/Activity Type	Purpose	Location	Total Project Cost
New Construction: Multipurpose Stage (Rota)	Construct a Multipurpose Stage Facility to enhance Rota's municipal and community outdoor events and activities.	Community and Economic Development Park. Lot No. 347 R 35, Sinapalo III, Rota	$230,000.00

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

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/s/
Arnold I. Palacios
Governor, CNMI

Business

Faulty software update causes havoc worldwide for airlines, hospitals, govts

NEW YORK (AP)—A faulty software update caused technological havoc worldwide on Friday, grounding flights, knocking down some financial companies and news outlets, and disrupting hospitals, small businesses and government offices.

The breadth of the outages highlighted the fragility of a digitized world dependent on just a few providers for key computing services.

The trouble was sparked by an update issued by cybersecurity firm CrowdStrike and only affected its customers running Microsoft Windows, the world's most popular operating system for personal computers. It was not the result of hacking or a cyberattack, according to CrowdStrike, which apologized and said a fix was on the way.

Businesses and governments worldwide experienced hourslong disruptions—their computer monitors glowing blue with error messages—and they scrambled to deal with the fallout. CrowdStrike's CEO said some of their systems will require time-consuming manual fixes.

Thousands of flights were canceled and tens of thousands were delayed, leading to long lines at airports in the U.S., Europe, Asia and Latin America. Airlines lost access to check-in and booking services in the heart of the summer travel season. By late afternoon Eastern time, the worst appeared to be over, though there were still lingering cancellations and delays do to the cascading effect of the disruption.

Several local TV stations in the U.S. were prevented from airing the news early Friday, and some state and local governments reported problems at courts, motor vehicles departments, unemployment agencies, emergency call centers and other offices, but as the day progressed many of the systems were getting back to normal.

Affected hospitals had problems with appointment systems, forcing them to suspend patient visits and cancel some surgeries.

Alison Baulos said her 73-year-old father's heart surgery in Paducah, Kentucky, was canceled Friday morning because of the tech outage, leaving her family scared and worried.

"It does really make you just realize how much we rely on technology and how scary it is," Baulos said in an interview. She said her father was waiting at Baptist Hospital to find out what will happen next. A phone message left with the hospital was not immediately returned.

American Express said it temporarily had some difficulties processing transactions, while TD Bank responded to online complaints by saying it was working to restore customers' ability to access their accounts.

Elsewhere, people experienced minor inconveniences, including trouble ordering ahead at Starbucks, causing long lines to form at some of the coffee chain's stores.

In New York City's Times Square, right before 12:30 a.m., the blue "recovery" screens popping up on laptops appeared on several giant electronic billboards. A few were dark Friday afternoon.

A disturbing reminder of vulnerability

Cyber expert James Bore said real harm would be caused. "All of these systems are running the same software," Bore said. "We've made all of these tools so widespread that when things inevitably go wrong—and they will, as we've seen — they go wrong at a huge scale."

The head of Germany's IT security agency, Claudia Plattner, said "we can't expect a very quick solution." A forecast for when exactly all systems will be up and running is difficult, but "it won't be hours," she added.

CrowdStrike said in a recording on its customer service line that the problem was related to "the Falcon sensor," referring to one of its products used to block online attacks. The company says it has 29,000 customers.

In an interview on NBC's "Today Show," CrowdStrike CEO George Kurtz apologized, saying the company was "deeply sorry for the impact that we've caused to customers, to travelers, to anyone affected by this, including our companies."

"We know what the issue is" and are working to fix it, Kurtz said. However, he noted it could take "some time" for certain customers, especially those lacking in-house expertise.

While CrowdStrike's update was automated, the fix requires hands-on work such as deleting corrupted files, which could take some customers days or longer, said Forrester analyst Allie Mellen.

"Given that CrowdStrike has a ton of customers, a ton of Fortune 500 customers, and they have likely millions of (computers) under management, this causes a bigger issue," Mellen said. "It is going to be a long and arduous process."

Ann Johnson, corporate vice president and deputy chief information security officer at Microsoft, said late Friday afternoon that "at this point in time, I would say that customers are receiving or have received the necessary information they need and are getting the support they need—understanding it's a very major issue."

She said Microsoft's primary focus is getting customers back online, but could not estimate how long this might take.

In Alaska, the state's court system returned to functionality after repairs that took 12 hours to complete, according to spokesperson Rebecca Koford. In Iowa, Gov. Kim Reynolds said the state's critical technology systems were up and running again by mid-afternoon.

Shares of CrowdStrike, which is based in Austin, Texas, ended Friday trading down more than 11%. Microsoft's stock price fell less than 1%.

Though the outage's impact could be felt far and wide, the forecasting firm Capital Economics said it was likely to have little impact on the world economy.

Cybersecurity experts said those affected by the outage also needed to be wary of bad actors reaching out claiming they can help. "Attackers will definitely prey on organizations as a result of this," said Gartner analyst Eric Grenier.

In a letter to customers posted on CrowdStrike's website, Kurtz said the outage did not affect its Falcon systems or its security scanning.

Air travel delayed everywhere

Most airlines attributed the problems to their booking systems. Thousands of flights were affected in the U.S. alone, though by late morning on the East Coast airlines said they were beginning to mitigate problems and resume some service. Unclogging the system takes time, though.

At Minneapolis-Saint Paul International Airport, Sarah Schafer was delayed getting to her cousin's 50th birthday party in Florida. She had been waiting for almost three hours with no indication of when her flight would be rebooked.

"I seem calm," said Schafer, who was using a cane because of ankle injury. "But my angry side might come out."

Airlines and railways in the U.K. experienced long wait times. And airports across Europe suspended landings or halted takeoffs for several hours due to difficulties in checking in passengers.

Saskia Oettinghaus, a member of the German Olympic diving team, was among those stuck at the Berlin Airport.

"We are on our way to Paris for the Olympic Games and now we are at a standstill here for the time being," Oettinghaus said.

In Cancun, Mexico, the main tourist destination in the Caribbean coast, the state government said there were 24 cancellations and 100 delayed flights. Some travelers tried to liven up the long waits by singing the traditional Mexican song, "Cielito Lindo," while a band that was also stranded was playing in the Cancun airport.

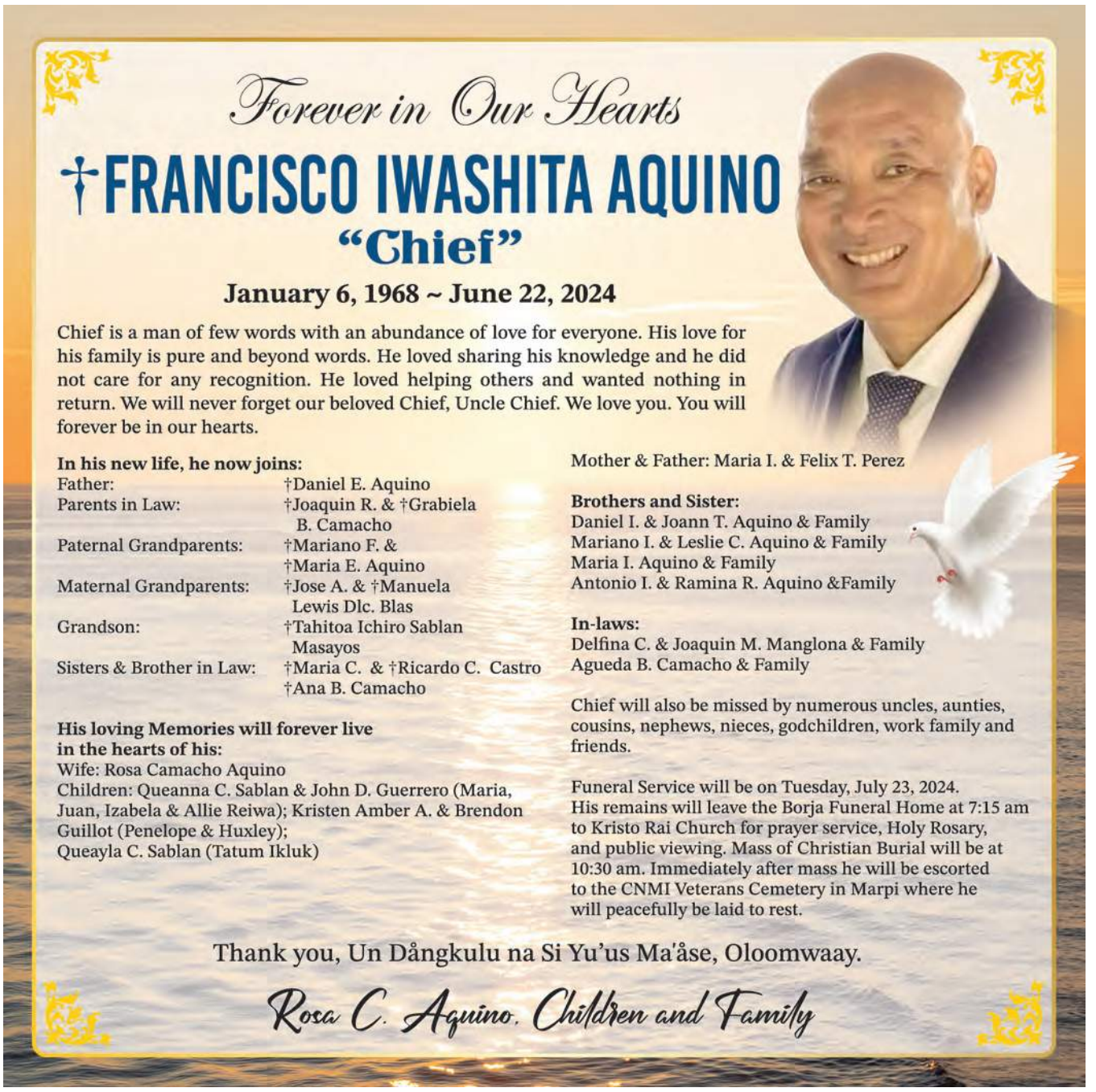
Broadcasters go dark, surgeries delayed, 'blue screens of death'

In Australia, national news outlets—including ABC and Sky News Australia—were unable to broadcast for hours. Some news anchors went on-air from dark offices, in front of computers showing blue error screens.

In the U.S., KSHB-TV in Kansas City, Missouri, aired Scripps News instead of local news until about 5:35 a.m., the stations said on its website. Other local stations owned by Scripps reported similar problems, though Scripps spokesman Michael Perry said early Friday that 90% of stations were able to air local news.

Hospitals in different countries also reported problems.

Britain's National Health Service said the outage caused problems at most doctors' offices because appointment and patient-record systems were affected.


Forever in Our Hearts
†FRANCISCO IWASHITA AQUINO
"Chief"
January 6, 1968 ~ June 22, 2024
Chief is a man of few words with an abundance of love for everyone. His love for his family is pure and beyond words. He loved sharing his knowledge and he did not care for any recognition. He loved helping others and wanted nothing in return. We will never forget our beloved Chief, Uncle Chief. We love you. You will forever be in our hearts.
In his new life, he now joins:
Father: †Daniel E. Aquino
Parents in Law: †Joaquin R. & †Grabiela B. Camacho
Paternal Grandparents: †Mariano F. & †Maria E. Aquino
Maternal Grandparents: †Jose A. & †Manuela Lewis Dlc. Blas
Grandson: †Tahitoa Ichiro Sablan Masayos
Sisters & Brother in Law: †Maria C. & †Ricardo C. Castro †Ana B. Camacho
His loving Memories will forever live in the hearts of his:
Wife: Rosa Camacho Aquino
Children: Queanna C. Sablan & John D. Guerrero (Maria, Juan, Izabela & Allie Reiwa); Kristen Amber A. & Brendon Guillot (Penelope & Huxley); Queayla C. Sablan (Tatum Ikluk)
Mother & Father: Maria I. & Felix T. Perez
Brothers and Sister:
Daniel I. & Joann T. Aquino & Family
Mariano I. & Leslie C. Aquino & Family
Maria I. Aquino & Family
Antonio I. & Ramina R. Aquino &Family
In-laws:
Delfina C. & Joaquin M. Manglona & Family
Agueda B. Camacho & Family
Chief will also be missed by numerous uncles, aunties, cousins, nephews, nieces, godchildren, work family and friends.
Funeral Service will be on Tuesday, July 23, 2024. His remains will leave the Borja Funeral Home at 7:15 am to Kristo Rai Church for prayer service, Holy Rosary, and public viewing. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10:30 am. Immediately after mass he will be escorted to the CNMI Veterans Cemetery in Marpi where he will peacefully be laid to rest.
Thank you, Un Dångkulu na Si Yu'us Ma'åse, Oloomwaay.
Rosa C. Aquino, Children and Family

Life & Style

Bob Newhart, deadpan master of sitcoms and telephone monologues, dies at 94

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Bob Newhart, the deadpan accountant-turned-comedian who became one of the most popular TV stars of his time after striking gold with a classic comedy album, has died at 94.

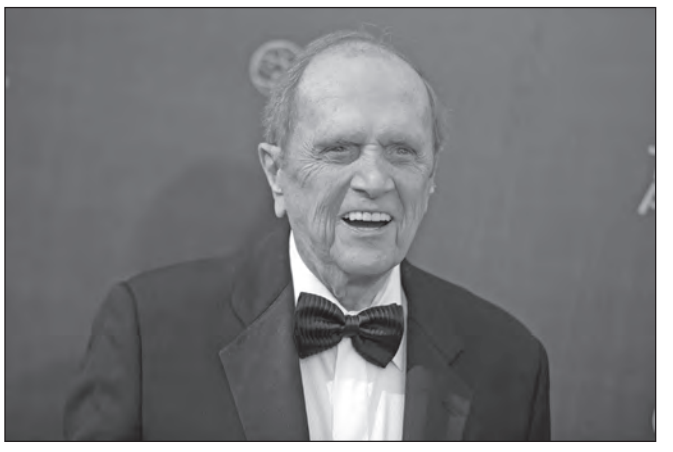
Jerry Digney, Newhart's publicist, says the actor died Thursday in Los Angeles after a series of short illnesses.

Newhart, best remembered now as the star of two hit television shows of the 1970s and 1980s that bore his name, launched his career as a standup comic in the late 1950s. He gained nationwide fame when his routine was captured on vinyl in 1960 as "The Button-Down Mind of Bob Newhart," which went on to win a Grammy Award as album of the year.

While other comedians of the time, including Lenny Bruce, Mort Sahl, Alan King, and Mike Nichols and Elaine May, frequently got laughs with their aggressive attacks on modern mores, Newhart was an anomaly. His outlook was modern, but he rarely raised his voice above a hesitant, almost stammering delivery. His only prop was a telephone, used to pretend to hold a conversation with someone on the other end of the line.

In one memorable skit, he portrayed a Madison Avenue image-maker urging Abraham Lincoln to quit tinkering with the Gettysburg Address and stick with his speechwriters' draft.

"You changed four score and seven to 87?" Newhart asks in disbelief. "Abe, that's meant to be a grabber … It's sort of like Mark Antony saying, 'Friends, Romans, countrymen, I've got something I wanna tell you.'"



AP

Bob Newhart appears at the Creative Arts Emmy Awards in Los Angeles on Sept. 10, 2016. Newhart, the deadpan master of sitcoms and telephone monologues, died in Los Angeles on Thursday, July 18, 2024.

Another favorite was "Merchandising the Wright Brothers," in which he tried to persuade the aviation pioneers to start an airline, although he acknowledged the distance of their maiden flight could limit them.

"Well, see, that's going to hurt our time to the Coast if we've got to land every 105 feet."

Newhart was initially wary of signing on to a weekly TV series, fearing it would overexpose his material. Nevertheless, he accepted an attractive offer from NBC, and "The Bob Newhart Show" premiered on Oct. 11, 1961. Despite Emmy and Peabody awards, the half-hour variety show was canceled after one season, a source for jokes by Newhart for decades after.

He waited 10 years before undertaking another "Bob Newhart Show" in 1972. This one was a situation comedy with Newhart playing a Chicago psychologist living in a penthouse with his schoolteacher wife, Suzanne Pleshette.

Letterman to headline Biden fundraiser with Hawaii governor

HONOLULU (AP)—David Letterman will headline a fundraiser with President Joe Biden in 10 days with Hawaii Gov. Josh Green, a sign that his campaign is forging ahead despite continued calls for the president to bow out of the 2024 race.

The fundraiser on July 29 will be at the home of a family friend on Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts, Green told The Associated Press Friday. It will feature the longtime late-night host, plus Biden and first lady Jill Biden. The campaign has at least 10 other fundraising events over the last 10 days of July.

Letterman helmed CBS' "Late Show" for 22 seasons. The event comes as other celebrities like George Clooney, director Rob Reiner and Stephen King have called on Biden to drop out of the 2024 race, following his disastrous debate performance on June 27. There's also been growing concern over continued fundraising support after anxious donors expressed serious worries about his performance and the future of the party.

AP

David Letterman speaks at an event, March 12, 2020, in New York. Letterman

Biden insists he is the best person to beat Donald Trump and is not stepping away. On Friday, Biden, who is recovering from COVID-19 at his Rehoboth Beach home, called for party unity and sought to shift the focus back to Donald Trump's agenda.

He said he was looking forward to getting back on the campaign trail next week to challenge the Republican's claims, "while making the case for my own record and the vision that I have for America: one where we save our democracy, protect our rights and freedoms, and create opportunity for everyone."

Weinstein retrial in NYC tentatively set for November

NEW YORK (AP)—A judge on Friday tentatively scheduled Harvey Weinstein's planned retrial on rape and sexual assault charges to begin on Nov. 12.

Weinstein wore an American flag pin on his jacket during a brief court appearance in Manhattan that was delayed by more than 90 minutes due to a disruption that affected computers around the world, according to Judge Curtis Farber.

Besides the setting of the trial date, the hearing addressed issues related to evidence in the case against the former Hollywood movie mogul, particularly information from phones that will be reviewed by a former judge to determine whether materials were relevant to the case and should be turned over to defense lawyers.

At a hearing last week, prosecutors said they anticipated a November retrial. They told Farber that they were still actively pursuing new claims against Weinstein, though they conceded that they hadn't yet brought any findings to a grand jury.

Weinstein denies that he sexually assaulted anyone.

His lawyers told Farber that they'd prefer an earlier trial date.

"He is anxious to go to trial and prove his innocence," one of Weinstein's attorneys, Diana Fabi Samson, said outside the courthouse.

Weinstein, 72, is jailed on Rikers Island. One of his attorneys, Arthur Aidala, has complained that Weinstein hasn't been getting proper care in jail for diabetes, macular degeneration and fluid in his lungs and heart.

Aidala was not in court on Friday, but another Weinstein attorney, John Esposito, told reporters that during a sidebar conversation with the judge, the defense again brought up Weinstein's medical issues. Farber said he would assist to the extent that he could to ensure that Weinstein is properly cared for, Esposito said.

Esposito said the preference would be for Weinstein to be moved back to Manhattan's Bellevue Hospital, where he could receive proper medical attention so he's in a good physical and mental state of mind for trial.

Niece keeps her boyfriend's family away from relative

DEAR ABBY: My sister passed away from cancer seven years ago. Her daughter and I have always been close—doing things together, going on trips, etc. Four years ago, she started dating a guy who thinks he's better than everyone. I have met him but have yet to meet the rest of his family. She always comes up with some excuse.

This past weekend she told me they were going somewhere special so he could propose, and he wanted to borrow a ring he had already given her (which I thought was odd). Then I saw on Facebook that his entire family was there for that special moment, but I wasn't invited.

I am heartbroken. If he planned it and didn't ask me, that's being a jerk. But my niece knowing about it and excluding me is a different story. I'm hurt and angry. I don't know what to say to her at this point. I feel she's ashamed of or embarrassed by me because I don't drive a fancy car.

OVERLOOKED AUNT IN VIRGINIA

DEAR AUNT: You state that your niece's boyfriend thinks he is "better than everyone" and you suspect you were excluded from the engagement event because you are not as wealthy as the family he comes from. But if he couldn't afford to buy your niece an engagement ring and needed to borrow one he had already given her, you may be overestimating his net worth.

I can't blame you for feeling the way you do, and please realize you have every right to express those feelings to the thoughtless niece you befriended.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: My husband is brilliant, classy, faithful, a great father and handsome at 46, with not even a wrinkle. He's been in a financial rut for about a decade and has let himself go. I respect him, but when I try to help him look better, he says, "I don't care. Go ahead and leave me," which I think is very immature.

I am becoming resentful because I've been with him for so long and have contributed 50% to our finances and 100% to his dreams as he has moved us around the USA. I'm 42 and beginning to find younger men attractive. While I'd never cheat, I can't help but miss the man I fantasize about in my dreams. It's hurtful that he doesn't care. People think he's my father when they meet him. Please help.

MISSING THE REAL HIM

DEAR MISSING: Has it occurred to you that when a brilliant, classy, faithful, handsome 46-year-old man who has been "in a rut" for the last 10 years lets his appearance go, he may be depressed? Rather than a physical makeover, he may need a mental one. Tell him you love him, that you are worried about his physical and mental health, and try to convince him to tell his doctor how he's feeling. If you do, it may be the answer to your problem.

■■■

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

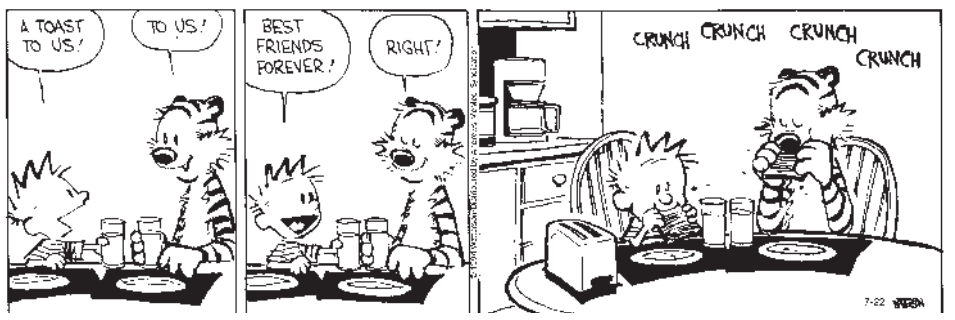
DEAR ABBY
BY ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

SO, THE EARTH'S CORE HAS STARTED MOVING BACKWARDS AND YOU THINK THAT WOULD FIX IT?
COULDN'T HURT.
EVERY TIME OUR TV WENT ON THE FRITZ WHEN I WAS A KID, IT'S WHAT MY DAD WOULD DO.
I DON'T KNOW. GOD SMACKING THE EARTH WITH THE PALM OF HIS HAND SOUNDS RISKY.
SKEPTIC.

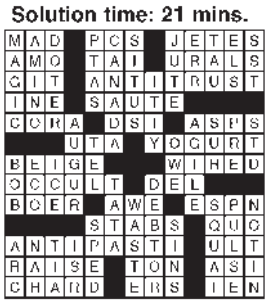
CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

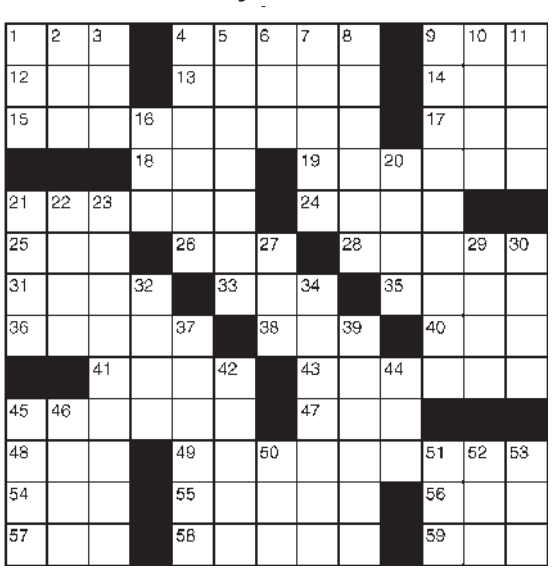
ACROSS
1 Scoundrel
4 Justice Kagan
9 UFO crew
12 Season opener?
13 Ticks off
14 HBO competitor
15 Fix up
17 — Talks (lecture series)
18 Roofing goo
19 Tennessee team
21 Old Spanish coin
24 Belgrade resident
25 Atty.'s title
26 Wall St. whiz
28 Audition goals
31 PC brains
33 Since Jan. 1
35 Scrabble piece
36 Prepare to pray
38 Victory
40 Govt. lender for a start-up
41 Smell — (suspect)
43 "Who cares?"
45 Eritrea's capital
47 In the manner of
48 Luau bowlful
49 Mumbo jumbo
54 Mag. staff
55 Some Yale newcomers
56 MGM rival
57 "Lah-di-—!"
58 Eyelid woes
59 Young fox

DOWN
1 YMCA class
2 "— you ready?"
3 Dict. info
4 Mistakes in print
5 Book-lined room
6 NFL's Manning
7 Egg holders
8 More wan
9 Set up, as rules
10 Subsequently
11 Freshens a lawn, say
16 Salt Lake athlete
20 Jog
21 Quick kiss
22 "NFL Live" channel
23 Nauseated
27 "Incidentally," to texters
29 Exile isle
30 Membership
32 Antitoxins
34 Switch off, as a firewall
37 Slow movements, in music
39 At minimum
42 Sully
44 Kids' card game
45 Mimicked
46 Scotch go-with
50 Ottoman ruler
51 Annoy
52 Enjoy Vail
53 Sizzling

Solution time: 21 mins.



Last Friday's answer 7-22



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Selena Gomez, 32; Rufus Wainwright, 51; David Spade, 60; Willem Dafoe, 69.

Happy Birthday: Take more interest in what's going on in your community this year. Participation and getting to know people facing similar situations will give you a better understanding of what's available to you. Broaden your sense of the possibilities, and establish what's best for you. What you put out is what you'll get back. Being generous will attract good people, new beginnings and affectionate gestures. Your numbers are 5, 11, 19, 26, 33, 37, 41.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Seize the moment and push for what you want. Join forces with people who share your expectations and concerns. Become the voice that makes a difference. Turn what you do best into something lucrative. Don't let emotions fester when action is necessary. Stop procrastinating. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Look before you leap. Avoid acting prematurely, offering too much information or making compromising promises. Focus on your finances and how to bring money in instead of doling it out. Stick close to home and implement a cheaper lifestyle. Establish priorities and prosper. ✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Follow the trends. Know your market and associate with people you consider mentors. Personal growth will lead to better days ahead. Fix up your personal space and spend more time with someone you love. Become the driving force behind what you want; success will follow. ✪✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Take control and make things happen. High energy and enthusiasm will draw attention and the help you require to make a difference. Don't hesitate to let someone know your intentions and how you feel. An emotional situation will turn into a fantastic opportunity. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Press forward with vim and vigor. Take a leadership position and be responsible for making opportunities you desire. It's your time to flourish, so don't let laziness squelch your dreams. Personal improvement is favored, and romance is in the stars. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Keep life simple and doable with a purpose in mind. Your conduct will set an example for others and influence how others treat you. Learning, researching and observing will help you make better decisions and lifestyle changes. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Do your part. The people you encounter will enrich your life. Don't be afraid to try something new or to change your look or approach to life and love. Put your energy where it counts, and become a participant instead of a bystander. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Be attentive, helpful and kind, but agree only to implement a move if ready. Set reasonable goals and dedicate your time accordingly. Be cognizant of older or rigid individuals' needs to avoid opposition. Traveling and gathering and confirming information will be in your best interest. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Flit about, gather information and organize your thoughts. Preparation and awareness will aid you in discovering who is on your side and what's possible and to your advantage. Question, adjust and follow through with your plans. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Address options and execute the changes that will put your mind at ease and balance your bank account. Consider those who influence you and how you live, and begin a dialogue that encourages being less frivolous and saving for something that has long-term benefits. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Spread joy and you'll get the help you require to improve your surroundings or achieve contentment. Love and romance are apparent if you make the first move. A pick-me-up that boosts your confidence will encourage you to go after your dreams. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Finish what you start, live up to your promises and don't allow anyone to manipulate a situation or lure you into an argument. Change what's necessary and leads to a better position. Be open to suggestions but careful not to take on more than you can handle. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are brave, generous and loving. You are persistent and helpful.

✪: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ✪✪: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ✪✪✪: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ✪✪✪✪: Aim high; start new projects. ✪✪✪✪✪: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

7					3			
8	2	4		1				
3						9	6	
	8	7	3		1	5		
	4	9	7		2			3
1	5			6		7	9	2
5		8		4	7			9
4			6	2		8		
9	6	2					7	

Difficulty: ★ 7/22

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Friday's Answer

8	2	4	5	9	7	1	6	3
5	6	9	2	3	1	7	8	4
3	1	7	6	8	4	5	2	9
1	5	8	7	2	9	4	3	6
2	7	3	4	6	8	9	5	1
9	4	6	1	5	3	2	7	8
4	3	2	9	7	6	8	1	5
6	9	5	8	1	2	3	4	7
7	8	1	3	4	5	6	9	2

Difficulty: ★★★★ 7/19

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

RED ROCK CANYON, NEVADA Solution: 7 letters

W	G	E	N	O	I	T	A	V	R	E	S	N	O	C
A	I	C	E	B	O	X	C	A	N	Y	O	N	A	A
S	S	L	W	O	S	T	A	T	E	P	A	R	K	M
H	O	P	L	A	S	V	E	G	A	S	L	O	C	P
E	T	O	Y	O	C	L	L	O	N	K	O	A	R	Y
A	T	N	E	T	W	B	G	M	A	H	S	D	E	G
S	E	D	S	D	R	S	O	E	A	C	U	R	E	O
H	P	E	I	E	E	L	P	B	O	P	N	U	K	L
S	A	R	O	S	N	H	I	R	C	B	S	N	S	O
P	C	O	T	E	T	T	P	Z	I	A	E	N	R	C
R	S	S	R	R	A	I	Y	K	A	N	T	E	E	E
I	D	A	O	T	O	(H)	(E)	(A)	(T)	R	G	R	W	E
N	N	N	T	N	S	T	N	A	L	P	D	S	O	R
G	A	H	A	W	K	E	E	R	C	T	S	O	L	I
S	L	L	I	H	O	C	I	L	A	C	L	I	F	F

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Ash Springs, Bike, Bobcat, Calico Hills, Camp, Cliff, Conservation, Coyote, Desert, Fire Ecology, Flowers, Habitat, Hawk, Heat, Ice Box Canyon, Knoll, Landscape, Las Vegas, Lizard, Lost Creek, Maps, North Peak, Oak Creek, Owls, Plants, Ponderosa, Roadrunner, Scorpion, State Park, Sunset, Tent, Tortoise, Wash, Willow Springs, Wren

Last Friday's answer : Intolerance

The NEW **Volume 77** can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. or call 1-800-642-6480. (In Canada, call 1-855-232-2367)

James hits game winner, US avoids upset and escapes South Sudan

By TIM REYNOLDS
AP Basketball Writer

AP

United States' forward LeBron James bumps fists with teammates after the end of an exhibition basketball game between the United States and South Sudan, at the o2 Arena in London, Saturday, July 20, 2024.

LeBron James saved the U.S. from what would have been a stunning loss.

James' layup with 8 seconds left was the go-ahead basket Saturday, and the U.S. Olympic team that'll soon head to the Paris Games escaped with a 101-100 win over South Sudan in London, rallying from a 16-point deficit to avoid perhaps the biggest upset in the program's history.

South Sudan, the African nation that gained its independence just 13 years ago and is about to play in the Olympics for the first time, led for more than half the game and had a chance to win at the end. But Carlik Jones' runner off the glass missed with about 4 seconds left, and the Americans survived.

"I'm going to be honest: I like those better than the blowouts," James said as he walked off the court. "At least we get tested."

Oh, they got tested — by a team that came into the game as 43.5-point underdogs, according to BetMGM Sportsbook.

"A good reminder that when we play against teams, it's the biggest game of their lives," U.S. coach Steve Kerr said. "We have to expect everyone to play like that."

Down by 16 at one point, the Americans dug out of that hole with an 18-0 run in the second half—then needed heroics at the end anyway. JT Thor's 3-pointer with 20 seconds left gave South Sudan a 100-99 lead, then the Americans called timeout and put the ball in James' hands.

He made it look easy: He waited, waited, waited, then drove and laid it in with ease to put the U.S. back on top, and the Americans got the stop they needed at the end.

James finished with a game-high 25 points, six rebounds and seven assists for the U.S., which improved to 4-0 with one game left—Monday vs. World Cup champion Germany—on its pre-Olympic exhibition tour. Anthony Davis added 15 points and 11 rebounds for the Americans.

Marial Shayok had 24 points for South Sudan and Jones had a triple-double—15 points, 11 rebounds and 11 assists.

The teams will meet in group play in the Paris Olympics on July 31.

"It's basketball. It happens," U.S. guard Stephen Curry said. "You want to play perfect every game; it doesn't happen. But can you dig deep and do the little things that help you win? Offense can come and go, but defense is the thing that helps you win championships, medals, all that stuff."

It should have been a mismatch, and for the first half, it was—just not in the way anyone would have expected.

The U.S. roster has 12 players, all of them All-Stars or NBA champions or both, with a total of 189,038 points in their regular-season careers, with 7,832 combined starts. South Sudan has four players who have appeared in an NBA game. They've scored a combined 1,228 points and started 19 games.

Didn't matter. It was 8-0 U.S. after 2 1/2 minutes. The rest of the half: South Sudan 58, U.S. 34. The Americans allowed South Sudan to shoot 61% in the first half and got outscored 21-3 from 3-point range in the first 20 minutes.

"I did not do a great job preparing our team," Kerr said. "We did not focus enough on what they're capable of, and that's on me. I think that really allowed South Sudan to gain confidence early. ... They were great. They played a wonderful game and the ending was good for us, just to feel that, to feel what it's going to be like in Paris and Lille."

An 18-0 run in the second half—James involved in most of it—was what really saved the U.S., turning a 76-65 deficit into an 83-76 lead.

South Sudan led by 16 late in the first half—58-42—before the Americans got the last basket to cut the deficit to 14 at the break.

But the 18-0 run was key. James had four assists during the spurt and Curry, from about 35 feet, connected on a 3-pointer late in the third that gave the U.S. its first lead since the first quarter at 79-76.

Wenyen Gabriel banked in a 3-pointer to get South Sudan within 85-84, but James—his former teammate with the Los Angeles Lakers—connected on a 3 on the ensuing U.S. possession, and the Americans would eventually pull through by the slimmest of margins.

"Today we were able to represent our country with pride and we put up a good fight and showed the potential of our country," Gabriel said. "I think it was a proud moment for a lot of people."

Davis said the team got to the arena late, thrown off by standstill London traffic, and that routines going into the game were disrupted. Maybe so, but South Sudan showed the U.S. that nobody at the Olympics will concede anything to the four-time defending gold medalists.

"Doesn't matter when it comes to how close the game is," James said. "We went out there to get better."

Clippers trade Westbrook to Jazz; expected to join the Nuggets after buyout

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Los Angeles Clippers sent Russell Westbrook to the Utah Jazz on Thursday in a sign-and-trade deal for point guard Kris Dunn.

The Jazz are expected to buy out the former NBA MVP's contract so Westbrook can sign with the Denver Nuggets, according to ESPN.

Utah also got the right to swap second-round draft picks in 2030, the draft rights to center Balsa Koprivica and cash.

Westbrook, a nine-time All-Star and the 2017 MVP for Oklahoma City, was traded for the fifth time in his career. He has now been traded to Utah by both franchises in his native Los Angeles in the past 18 months.

The 35-year-old Westbrook has reportedly opted into the final year of his contract with the Clippers, who were to pay him just over $4 million. The point guard averaged a career-low 11.1 points per game while mostly coming off the bench last season for the Clippers, who were bounced by Dallas in the first round of the playoffs while Kawhi Leonard was injured.

"Russ is an all-time great, and we were fortunate to have him here," Clippers president of basketball operations Lawrence Frank said in a statement. "He lifted the energy and intensity of the group. We look forward to seeing him continue his decorated career."

If Westbrook clears waivers, ESPN says he plans to join the Nuggets, who are in need of guard depth after parting with Kentavious Caldwell-Pope and Reggie Jackson earlier this month.

The deal brings an end to Westbrook's two attempts to win a championship in his hometown. He first had a wildly disappointing 1 1/2 seasons with the Lakers, who acquired him in August 2021 to be the third superstar alongside LeBron James and Anthony Davis on a team with title aspirations.

Instead, Westbrook managed just 17.4 points per game for the Lakers while struggling to play alongside James and Davis with any of his usual effectiveness. The Lakers traded Westbrook to Utah in February 2023, and he signed with the Clippers after the Jazz bought out his contract.

Westbrook improved his shooting percentage with the Clippers, but also never returned to the heights of his high-scoring, ball-dominating peak on another team with veteran stars. He had a diminished role for much of the second half of last season while largely coming off the bench.

Los Angeles has also lost Paul George to Philadelphia in free agency this month, but Leonard and James Harden will return along with Ivica Zubac, Norman Powell and Terance Mann.

The Clippers will be the sixth NBA team in nine seasons for Dunn, the No. 5 overall pick in the 2016 draft. Dunn averaged 5.4 points and 3.8 assists per game last season for the Jazz while starting 32 of his 66 games.

"Kris is a relentless point-of-attack defender, a connector on the offensive end and a terrific teammate," Frank said. "He'll help improve our defense and balance our backcourt."

Jontay Porter, banned from NBA, is denied permission to resume career in Greece

A federal judge has denied a request by former NBA player Jontay Porter to be allowed to resume his basketball career in Greece while he is awaiting sentencing for his role in a betting scandal that got him banned from the league.

Porter, in a letter sent by attorney Jeff Jensen on Tuesday, had asked that some conditions of his bond be modified so that he can get his U.S. passport back, be allowed to travel in Europe and to reside in Patras, Greece. Jensen told the court that Porter would play for the Greek club Promitheas BC.

But a court posting Wednesday shows the request was denied by Judge LaShann DeArcy Hall. Jensen declined to comment on the decision.

In his letter to the judge, Jensen had noted that federal prosecutors in Brooklyn had no opposition to the request.

"The proposed modification would allow Mr. Porter to pursue a very fortunate—and quickly diminishing—opportunity to earn income through his primary skillset," Jensen wrote. "Mr. Porter, and more importantly his agent, believe such an opportunity is unlikely to arise again. ... Since being banned from the NBA there have been no other opportunities available to continue his basketball career. Mr. Porter has a limited window to earn an income through professional basketball during his prime earning years as a professional athlete."

Porter, 24, was banned from the NBA after admitting that he helped bettors by intentionally underperforming in games. He pleaded guilty last month to a federal conspiracy crime. He is free on $250,000 bond while awaiting sentencing set on Dec. 18, and prosecutors have estimated that he could be facing a range from just under 3 1/2 years in prison to a little over four years.

Jensen has said Porter "was in over his head due to a gambling addiction." Porter told the court he has undergone inpatient rehab for a gambling problem and remains in therapy, which is being done virtually and wouldn't be affected by a move to Greece, Jensen said. The Greek club also arranged in-person counseling for Porter, and plans called for his mother and mother-in-law to regularly be with Porter and his wife in Greece to provide additional family support. Porter's wife is expecting a baby, Jensen said.

Porter averaged 4.4 points, 3.2 rebounds and 2.3 assists in 26 games, including five starts for Toronto this past season. He also played in 11 games for Memphis in the 2020-21 season.

Porter was banned by NBA Commissioner Adam Silver in April after a league probe found he disclosed confidential information to sports bettors and wagered on games. ***(AP)***

Dodgers walk off Red Sox in extra innings

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Will Smith singled with the bases loaded and one out in the 11th inning to drive in Kike Hernandez as the Los Angeles Dodgers rallied for a 7-6 win over the Boston Red Sox on Saturday.

Smith lined a base hit to centerfield off Greg Weissert (2-2) to give the Dodgers the victory. Hernandez was the automatic runner at second base to begin the 11th. He advanced to third on pinch-hitter Cavan Biggio's sacrifice bunt. Chris Taylor walked and Shohei Ohtani was intentionally walked to set the stage for Smith.

Hernandez, who entered in the seventh, kept the Dodgers alive twice. He tied it at 4 in the ninth with a solo homer to left-center off former Dodgers closer Kenley Jansen. Hernandez then evened it 6-all in the 10th with a base hit up the middle to drive in Andy Pages, whose one-out double brought home automatic runner Freddie Freeman.

Blake Treinen (3-2) got the win by retiring Boston in order in the 11th.

Tyler O'Neill hit a pair of two-run homers for the Red Sox, who had won six straight games decided by one run.

AP

Los Angeles Dodgers' Will Smith, left, drives in the winning run with a single during the 11th inning of a baseball game against the Boston Red Sox, Saturday, July 20, 2024, in Los Angeles.

RAYS 9, YANKEES 1

NEW YORK (AP)—Taj Bradley pitched one-hit ball over seven innings to remain unbeaten in eight straight starts, Randy Arozarena hit two of Tampa Bay's four home runs and the Rays routed the New York Yankees 9-1 on Saturday.

Alex Jackson, Isaac Paredes and Arozarena homered off Nestor Cortes, and Arozarena added another against Josh Maciejewski for his seventh multihomer game. Arozarena tied a career high with four hits and Curtis Mead, back in the majors for the first time since May 3, had three hits including a go-ahead double in the third.

Bradley (5-4) allowed his only hit when Ben Rice singled leading off the first, and the 23-year-old right-hander improved to 4-0 with a 0.92 ERA in his last eight starts. He leads the major leagues in ERA since June 8 among pitchers with at least 30 innings, bettering even the 1.14 of Pittsburgh's Paul Skenes. Bradley has held hitters to a .129 average (13 for 101) over that span.

TIGERS 7, BLUE JAYS 3

TORONTO (AP)—Jake Rogers hit his third career grand slam during a six-run sixth inning, and Detroit beat Toronto for their 10th win in 12 games.

Andy Ibanez had two hits and two RBIs for the Tigers. Rogers hit his seventh home run off Trevor Richards, who entered after the Tigers knocked Yusei Kikuchi (4-9) out of the game during their big inning.

Toronto slugger Vladimir Guerrero Jr. went 3 for 4 with a two-run homer, his 16th, but the slumping Blue Jays lost for the fourth time in five and matched a season worst by falling 10 games below .500.

Guerrero homered for the third straight game for the second time this season. He also did it June 27-29.

ATHLETICS 8, ANGELS 2

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Brent Rooker hit a three-run homer, Lawrence Butler had a bases-clearing double and Oakland beat the Los Angeles Angels.

The A's have won five of seven and are on a franchise-long eight-game home winning streak against the Angels, with an announced crowd of 14,574 in attendance at the Coliseum.

Athletics starter Mitch Spence (6-6) pitched into the sixth and held the Angels to two runs.

Rooker hit his 22nd homer of the season to give the A's a 3-0 lead four batters into the game. Rooker is batting nearly .480 in July.

METS 1, MARLINS 0

MIAMI (AP)—Luis Severino and three relievers combined on a four-hitter as the New York Mets beat Miami.

Pete Alonso doubled with one out in the fourth inning and scored when Francisco Alvarez grounded into a fielder's choice with the bases loaded.

Jose Iglesias had two hits for the Mets (50-47), who improved to 4-4 against NL-worst Miami this year. They are 26-12 since falling a season-low 11 games under .500 on June 2.

It was New York's second shutout this season - both in the past six games. Miami was blanked for the 11th time.

PIRATES 4, PHILLIES 1

PITTSBURGH (AP)—Luis Ortiz pitched seven shutout innings, Oneil Cruz had a home run and three RBIs, and Pittsburgh stretched their winning streak to six games with a victory over Philadelphia.

Ortiz (5-2), who had not gone more than six innings this season, gave up three hits and two walks with two strikeouts to lower his ERA to 2.57.

Andrew McCutchen led off the sixth inning by hitting a 3-1 sinker from Cristopher S√°nchez (7-5) 431 feet into the bullpen in left-center field. Nick Gonzales, who hit the winning RBI single in the ninth inning of an 8-7 win Friday night, got on with a two-out single and scored on Cruz's double off the wall in right.

Cruz hit a two-out, two-run home run 422 feet off a fastball from Matt Strahm to make it 4-0 in the eighth. He also had three RBIs on Friday.

NATIONALS 5, REDS 4

WASHINGTON (AP)—Jacob Young hit a tiebreaking RBI single in the eighth inning, Lane Thomas bolstered his trade stock with a run-scoring double and Washington rallied past Cincinnati.

Derek Law (6-2) pitched two scoreless innings on an outstanding night for the Nationals' bullpen after MacKenzie Gore's shortest start of the season. Washington has taken two straight from Cincinnati, damaging the Reds' hopes of remaining relevant in the NL playoff race.

Ildemaro Vargas doubled leading off the eighth against Justin Wilson (1-2). With two outs, Young lined Wilson's first pitch through the left side to score Vargas from third.

In the seventh, Thomas fought off a low-and-away fastball from Fernando Cruz and lined it to right to drive in Young and tie the game at 4-all. Young finished 2-for-3 with two stolen bases.

BRAVES 3, CARDINALS 2, 10 INNINGS, 1ST GAME

CARDINALS 9, BRAVES 5, 2ND GAME

ATLANTA (AP)—Nolan Gorman hit a two-run homer in a four-run second inning and the St. Louis Cardinals overcame two homers by Marcell Ozuna to beat the Atlanta Braves 9-5 and avoid being swept in Saturday's split doubleheader.

The Braves won the first game 3-2 when Ozzie Albies hit a sacrifice fly with one out in the 10th inning.

Sonny Gray (10-6) gave up five runs and a career-high four homers, including two by Ozuna, in the second game. Gray had 10 strikeouts.

Ozuna hit his 28th in the sixth, when Austin Riley and Eddie Rosario also homered. Rosario hit a two-run shot in the first game.

ROYALS 6, WHITE SOX 1

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—Brady Singer threw seven shutout innings to lead Kansas City Royals to a victory over the Chicago White Sox.

Singer faced the minimum through three before running into fourth-inning trouble, walking two to load the bases. He escaped with a strikeout and retired 10 of the final 13 hitters.

Singer (6-6) allowed five singles with two walks and seven strikeouts to earn his second win in his last 10 starts.

The Royals built a 3-0 lead in the first inning with five straight hits, highlighted by Michael Massey's RBI triple. Maikel Garcia and Bobby Witt Jr. doubled in the second, adding another run.

DIAMONDBACKS 3, CUBS 0

CHICAGO (AP)—Corbin Carroll hit a two-run homer and Alek Thomas had a solo shot in Arizona's three-run fifth inning to help the Diamondbacks beat the Chicago Cubs for their sixth win in seven games.

Zac Gallen gave up three hits in five scoreless innings, tying his career high with six walks, as defending National League champion Arizona moved three games over .500 for the first time this season.

The next three relievers - Kevin Ginkel, Justin Martinez and Ryan Thompson—each pitched a perfect inning - and Paul Sewald worked around Miles Mastrobuoni's pinch-hit double in the ninth for his 15th save to complete the four-hitter.

Cubs starter Kyle Hendricks (2-8) allowed three runs and two hits, while walking three in five innings. The 34-year-old right-hander was cruising until the fifth when Carroll and Thomas went deep.

PADRES 7, GUARDIANS 0

CLEVELAND (AP)—Dylan Cease allowed one hit and struck out 10 in seven innings, Jake Cronenworth homered and drove in three runs and San Diego beat AL Central-leading Cleveland.

Jeremiah Estrada worked a 1-2-3 eighth and Yuki Matsui a spotless ninth, completing the combined one-hitter as San Diego moved back above .500 at 51-50.

Cease (9-8) only allowed two baserunners—Tyler Freeman tripled in the third and Andres Gimenez walked in the fifth—in extending his scoreless inning streak to 13. The right-hander's 10 strikeouts raised his major league-best total to 159.

It was Cease's fourth double-digit strikeout game of the season and the 21st of his career. He was acquired from the White Sox in a five-player trade on March 13.

ORIOLES 8, RANGERS 4

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—Grayson Rodriguez struck out eight over six innings for his AL-best 12th win, and Cedric Mullins became the eighth Baltimore batter with 10 home runs this season as the Orioles beat Texas.

Jordan Westburg and Ryan O'Hearn also went deep to increase Baltimore's major league-best total to 156 home runs, 16 more than the New York Yankees.

The AL East-leading Orioles, the first American League team to reach 60 wins, went ahead to stay with a four-run second against Max Scherzer (1-3). The three-time Cy Young Award winner didn't return at the start of the next inning.

Rodriguez (12-4) struck out the side in the sixth to end his night. The right-hander allowed his only three hits and two runs in a four-batter span in the second inning before retiring 13 of the last 14 he faced. He is the first Orioles pitcher since Sidney Ponson in 2003 to win 12 of his first 18 appearances in a season.

ROCKIES 4, GIANTS 3

DENVER (AP)—Ezequiel Tovar homered for a third straight game, hitting a tie-breaking two-run drive in the fifth inning, and Colorado Rockies beat San Francisco.

Kyle Freeland (2-3) went six innings and allowed three runs - two earned - on five hits in a fifth consecutive quality start since being reinstated from the injured list June 23 after missing two months due to a left elbow strain. He struck out four and walked one to win back-to-back decisions for the first time this season.

Tyler Fitzgerald, batting ninth in the order, doubled and homered to drive in two runs for the Giants. Wilmer Flores had a run-scoring double after Matt Chapman reached with two outs in the top of the sixth on shortstop Tovar's fielding error.

Logan Webb was coming off his worst start of the season. He had matched a career-high when he allowed seven runs in five innings in a 10-6 loss to Toronto on July 10.

Exciting new event for Michelob Ultra Beer Mile 2024

Run Saipan is thrilled to announce the annual Michelob Ultra Beer Mile event, set to take place at the picturesque Saipan Vegas golf course on Aug. 2, 2024. Individuals are invited to try their hand at this special event, full of fun and, well, beer.

This year, the event introduces an exhilarating new twist: the Corporate Relay. Get three other work friends together to represent your organization in this fun and fast relay event.

The Michelob Ultra Beer Mile has become a much-anticipated tradition, combining fitness, fun, and the unique challenge of running a mile while consuming four beers. This year's event promises to be bigger and better, with the addition of the Corporate Relay, a team-based competition that encourages camaraderie and corporate spirit.

Corporate Relay: A new team challenge

In the new Corporate Relay event, four members from the same organization will team up to tackle the Beer Mile challenge. Each participant will complete one lap of the course and drink one beer before tagging the next team member. This four-lap, four-beer relay adds a layer of strategy and teamwork, making it a perfect opportunity for businesses to foster team building and healthy competition among colleagues.

Supporting a worthy cause

All proceeds from the Corporate Relay event will go to the Saipan Humane Society, an organization dedicated to the welfare and protection of animals in our community. By participating, teams will not only enjoy a fun and challenging event but also contribute to a noble cause.

Event details:

- Date: Aug. 2, 2024
- Time: 5pm
- Location: Saipan Vegas golf course

Registration and participation

Participants can register individually or as part of a corporate team. Early registration is encouraged, as spots are limited. All participants must be 21 years or older.

Each participant in the Beer Mile will receive a commemorative Run Saipan Beer mug and the chance to win other exciting prizes.

Run Saipan's commitment to fun and safety

Run Saipan is committed to ensuring a fun and safe event for all participants.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Participants of last year's Run Saipan annual Michelob Ultra Beer Mile pose for a group photo at the Saipan Vegas golf course.

All necessary health and safety protocols will be strictly followed. Participants are reminded to drink responsibly and ensure they have a designated driver or alternate transportation.

Join us for an unforgettable experience

The Run Saipan Beer Mile is not just a race; it's an event filled with laughter, community spirit, and the joy of shared experiences. Whether you are a seasoned runner or a first-time participant, the Beer Mile offers a unique challenge and an opportunity to be part of a vibrant community.

For more information about Run Saipan, visit their website at www.runsaipan.com or to register go to: https://raceroster.com/events/2024/83572/the-run-saipan-beer-mile-24r.

About Run Saipan

Run Saipan is dedicated to promoting fitness, community engagement, and fun through unique running events. Its mission is to create memorable experiences that bring people together and encourage a healthy lifestyle.

"Come for the run, stay for the fun! Join us at the Saipan Vegas golf course on Aug. 2 for the 2024 Run Saipan Beer Mile and experience the excitement of the Corporate Relay, all while supporting the Saipan Humane Society!" said Run Saipan in a statement. ***(PR)***

CHELSEA

From page 16

from Japan, and the Chelsea Soccer School HK Women's Team.

Chelsea won the championship due to winning all games against the three teams in a round-robin format. They had a 3-0-0 win-draw-loss standing, while Shonan Bellmare was second at 2-0-1; NMIFA was at 1-0-2; and Tuloy had a 0-0-3 record.

Chelsea first beat the NMIFA Women's Team, 1-0; then defeated Shonan Bellmare 1-0; and wrapped up the tourney with their third win after they blanked Tuloy, 1-0.

The Hong Kong-based football club was made up of Tsz Shan Chan, Hei Man Yiu, Kiu Ting Wong, Wing Lam Chan, Hong Kiu Leung, Shuk Fan Wong, Kan Yu Lam, Tsz Yiu Wong, Raisalam Yan Yue Ma, Ching Long So, Yuen Ki Ng, Lai Mae Tsan, Ka Man Wong, Choi Yiu Wu, Yee Hing Chan, Pak Ling Ko, Chit Ho, Ka Iyan Chak, Chakshun Iya, and Yuet Ching Man.

In the other games, the NMIFA Women's Team snagged a 1-0 win over Tuloy in dramatic fashion as Jannah Casarino scored in the 23rd minute of the 25-minute game.

Casarino said in an interview after her game winning goal, "It was pretty good. I've been waiting for that opportunity. We had a training match against them, and I didn't get the chance to show my ability. But I'm glad now, in front of everybody, I got to show them how my team can play and how hard we worked together."

About the football clubs coming over to play in the NMI against them, she said, "It's a great opportunity for us to play against them. We usually don't get the chance to play against other women's teams. We usually just play against U15 boys, so I think it's a good challenge to play against other women. I just thank them for coming out and helping us with our three nation's cup."

The first match of the tourney was between Shonan Bellmare and Tuloy, with Bellmare taking the win, 2-0.

The cup was in memory of NMIFA and Tan Holdings Corp. president and CEO Jerry Tan's mother, Lam Pak Kim, who passed away at the age of 95 three weeks ago in Hong Kong.

In the awards ceremony, remarks were made by Tan, Macapagal-Arroyo, Shonan Bellmare FC president Kiyoshi Makabe, and Tuloy Foundation chair Raymond Tan.

ACADEMY

From page 16

private lessons, and open mat.

Their grand opening is on Oct. 19 after their competition in the Marianas Open International Championship in Guam on Oct. 12.

The 31-year-old Deleon Guerrero, who is a U.S. Marine veteran with almost 13 years of jiu-jitsu experience, said that the goal was to give their gym an academy feel—not just a regular training facility. "We wanted to give it an actual martial arts gym ambiance. Me and Troy pieced together what we wanted the facility to look like… and we see ourselves growing bigger in the near future," he said of the academy space.

Deleon Guerrero, who was based in San Diego, California before heading back home to Saipan, said that he wanted to open up the academy because there's no just strictly jiu-jitsu gym here.

"In the states, I already knew I wanted to master the art, get my black belt out there, and bring it home to the people that can't go out and get that training," he said. "Now that I have reached that level of where I'm confident enough to teach and share the art, I just want to provide that for the community."

For Santos, he also dabbles in BJJ and is currently a white belt. He also owns Lone Fox Bistro & Lounge and for his part, said that he helped open up the academy because he believes in his good friend—Deleon Guerrero's craft. "He just got his black belt recently and is dedicated to the sport. Not everybody knows but only 1% of all BJJ practitioners get their black belt, so it's a really big accomplishment."

On the turnout of the meet-and-greet, he said, "we're really happy with the support and for everyone who reached out. I'm really happy with the turnout and the amount of interest from people." About 30 people made their way to the academy where they signed up for classes, got to roll around the mats, and listened to an orientation presented by Deleon Guerrero.

He thanked their supporters, family and friends, and whoever lent a helping hand in the academy. "We're really happy about that and we just hope everybody enjoys it as much as we do. We want to create an image where everyone feels welcome and wants to come and train and come back continuously," said the 31-year-old.

For more information, contact saipansubmissions@gmail.com, or check out their Instagram page at saipansubmissions.

PICKLEBALL

From page 16

visiting ethnic communities to understand how to help and promote sports tourism.

"This island is a diverse community and is no longer just Chamorro and Carolinian...As a mayor, what I'm doing now is I'm visiting ethnic communities and asking how they can help me help the community... Sports is so important to curb all these juveniles that have nothing to do after school, summer, and this is so important for them," he said.

He also said sports tourism could be a new driver of the local economy.

"We're all squabbling about Japanese tourism, Korean tourism, but what about promoting sports tourism? I think this is it (sports tourism) now. We can talk about promoting and driving the economy by putting the CNMI in the spotlight for tourism, [specifically] sports tourism," he added.

Camacho also mentioned in his speech that pickleball is new to him and he encouraged everyone to help him promote the sport, especially to kids, "to bring them to a better lifestyle."

The ceremony was concluded with a group picture and then some of the guests tried out pickleball at the newly turned over tennis court.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	60	38	.612	–
New York	59	41	.590	2
Boston	53	44	.546	6½
Tampa Bay	49	49	.500	11
Toronto	44	54	.449	16
Central Division				
Cleveland	59	38	.608	–
Minnesota	54	43	.557	5
Kansas City	54	45	.545	6
Detroit	49	50	.495	11
Chicago	27	73	.270	33½
West Division				
Houston	52	46	.531	–
Seattle	52	48	.520	1
Texas	46	52	.469	6
Los Angeles	41	57	.418	11
Oakland	39	61	.390	14

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	62	36	.633	–
Atlanta	54	43	.557	7½
New York	50	47	.515	11½
Washington	46	53	.465	16½
Miami	34	64	.347	28
Central Division				
Milwaukee	56	42	.571	–
St. Louis	51	47	.520	5
Pittsburgh	50	48	.510	6
Cincinnati	47	52	.475	9½
Chicago	47	53	.470	10
West Division				
Los Angeles	58	41	.586	–
Arizona	51	48	.515	7
San Diego	51	50	.505	8
San Francisco	47	52	.475	11
Colorado	36	63	.364	22

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

James hits game winner, US avoids upset and escapes South Sudan

PAGE 13

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Exciting new event for Michelob Ultra Beer Mile 2024

PAGE 15

Chelsea Soccer School FC tops LPK Cup

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Chelsea Soccer School HK Women's Team from Hong Kong poses for a group photo at the Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan as they were named the champion of the 2024 LPK Cup that was held at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville last Thursday.

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Chelsea Soccer School HK Women's Team from Hong Kong won the 2024 LPK Cup championship held at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville last Thursday.

An awards banquet was held at the Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan after six round-robin matches that were played between the tourney's four clubs.

The awards banquet and the tourney was attended by former Philippine president Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, dignitaries, NMIFA clubs and members, family and friends of the players, and football fans

The cup featured the Northern Marianas Football Association Women's Team, Tuloy FC Women's Team from the Philippines, Shonan Bellmare FC U15 Girls Team

See CHELSEA on Page 15

Pickleball federation adopts Capitol Hill tennis court

RACQUEL FLOYD

Saipan Mayor Ramon B. "RB" Camacho, 13th from left, presents the Adopt-A-Place certificate to the Pickleball Federation of the NMI led by president Nelson Krum, ninth from right, last Friday at the Capitol Hill tennis court.

By RACQUEL H. FLOYD
raxfloyd@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Saipan Mayor Ramon Blas "RB" Camacho and the Pickleball Federation of the Northern Mariana Islands held an Adopt-a-Place ceremony last Friday afternoon at Capitol Hill tennis court.

The PFNMI officially adopted the Capitol Hill tennis courts and can now resurface the old tennis court into four dedicated pickleball courts after Triple J committed money for the resurfacing.

In the speech of the PFNMI president Nelson Krum, he mentioned that pickleball started on Saipan four years ago.

"In a very short four years, we have grown to have six different groups playing pickleball between Tinian and here (Saipan). There's one group on Tinian playing on three courts, we have a group in Koblerville, Hopwood Junior High that has three courts, Marianas High School, American Memorial Park, and here on Capitol Hill.

Krum also added that the sport of pickleball is taking off on Saipan not as quickly as it is in America and not as fast as it is in the rest of the world.

Meanwhile, in the speech of Camacho, he mentioned

See PICKLEBALL on Page 15

Saipan Submissions Academy opens in CK

LEIGH GASES

Brazilian Jiu Jitsu and black belt Bryan Deleon Guerrero, left, poses with business partner Troy Santos in their new Saipan Submissions Academy gym in the first floor of the M.S.V. Building in Chalan Kanoa last Saturday during the academy's meet-and-greet.

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REPORTER

A new place to roll around and train, get fit, and learn Brazilian Jiu Jitsu is up in Chalan Kanoa as Saipan Submissions Academy held its first meet-and-greet last Saturday in their gym on the first floor of the M.S.V. Building.

Bryan Deleon Guerrero made his way back home last week and took his BJJ expertise to the people of the CNMI with the new academy that he opened up with his business partner and Saipan Submissions president Troy Santos.

Deleon Guerrero is a black belt in BJJ who trains under black belt Baret Yoshida—a prominent American figure in Jiu-Jitsu and a world no-gi champion.

Deleon Guerrero is the main instructor of the academy that is open from Monday to Saturday to all ages and offers gi and no-gi classes. The children's classes are on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays. They also have a women's only class on Tuesdays and Thursdays. They offer jiu-jitsu fundamentals, competition classes, one-on-one

See ACADEMY on Page 15